

# Gladiolus Place

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July - December 2023

## *Newsletter*



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Bi-Annual Events & Updates



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# FOREWORD



*Embark on a journey through the heartwarming pages of our newsletter as we delve into the vibrant tapestry of Gladiolus Place's story in the second half of 2023. As we reflect on the pages turned and chapters written, we are grateful for the strength that carried us through both joyous moments and trials.*

In 2023, we welcomed new faces into our family, expanded our reach, and commemorated our 25th Anniversary with gratitude. Over the past 25 years, we have stood as a sanctuary, offering healing and safety to vulnerable teenage Girls during their most challenging times. This journey has been one of perseverance, courage, and profound joy, underscoring our commitment to

## Rebuilding Lives and Restoring Families.

Now, as we step into 2024, the promise of new beginnings and continued transformation awaits. Let us explore the essence of Gladiolus Place—a place where every act of kindness, prayer, and support plays a vital role in creating a brighter future for the Girls in our care. Our organisation's strength is intricately tied to our community, and we extend heartfelt gratitude to all who have embraced us with warmth. Each expression of love plays a pivotal role in deepening our understanding of compassion.

This edition promises to captivate our readers with stories that showcase the positive impact we've had on the lives of the Girls we nurture. As you immerse yourself in the heartwarming pages of our newsletter, we invite you to join us in celebrating the unfolding stories of resilience, hope, and transformation.





**Dear Friends, Supporters,  
Partners of Gladiolus Place,  
warmest greetings in the name of  
our Lord Jesus Christ! Welcome to  
our second bi-annual newsletter of  
Gladiolus Place for 2023!**



In a whirlwind of celebratory events in the second half of 2023, we wrapped up our 25th Anniversary commemorations with a Gala Dinner on 16 November 2023. With full preparations galloping ahead, it was painful to receive news that very morning, of Joe's passing.

It was 8am when my husband Joshua and I received a phone call from Kim, who had mentored me for over the past three decades, informing us that her husband Joe (Chean) had been in a car accident in Turkey and was called home to be with the Lord. Joe has been a mentor to Joshua for the past 35 years. We took a moment to take in the news. And it was a while before we managed to compose ourselves so that we could get ourselves to work. All I had wanted to do was to head over to Kim's, but I had a Gala Dinner to see to. How do I host Gladiolus Place's biggest celebration of not just the year but of the past quarter century, while grieving the loss of a dear friend?

Much has been said and written about Joe especially following the news of his passing. But having known Joe and Kim from our teenage years, this couple had jointly imparted much of their lives to both of us, even long before Joshua and I met. It was a struggle holding back my tears when I spoke about Joe during my speech at the Gala Dinner, and I share here the excerpt from my speech:



*'I remember the days when I was pondering where I should go to serve after I had completed my bond with the public service. And Joe said this to me,*



**“Michelle, go to where you are most needed,  
and where you can be most effective for the Lord.”**



*Till today, this remains my key consideration in critical life decisions. Where am I most needed? Where can I be the most effective for the Lord? Joe's life is truly an inspiration, and one to be celebrated.'*



What I said next is a message that is true to not just the 250 guests at our Gala Dinner, but also to all of you – our faithful friends, supporters and partners:

*'Each one of you gathered here tonight represents a hand in the lives of our Girls and their Families. You are the hand forming the cocoon from which our young beneficiaries will emerge. You have been needed here with our Girls. You are effective here. And most importantly, you have answered the call!*

*Thank you for being an integral part of our 25-year journey, and as we embark on the next chapter of our shared story, here's to the next 25 years of making a difference, to one child at a time, to one family at a time, with one act of kindness at a time!*



My friends, **YOU** have been an integral part of our journey. **YOU** have answered the call to meet the needs of our Girls. **YOU** have been an effective vessel here. My Staff and I, we are all privileged to have you on board with us, in this journey of heart work.

Joshua and I took the rest of November and December to grieve. And to celebrate Joe's life and the legacy he has left behind. Through this season, we learnt to savour even more each moment of life in its entirety. Life comprising all its different flavours.

It has been 25 years of "Rebuilding Lives, Restoring Families". And even more so, 25 years of living in the steadfast goodness, unwavering faithfulness and enduring love of the Lord. And in an ever-changing world, knowing that He never changes gives us confidence to push forward and march ahead. He is the reason why we keep on doing what we're doing, through all its ups-and-downs, just so that we can make that life-changing difference, to one child at a time, one family at a time.

*My friends, will you join hands with us as we enter the next 25 years of our work?*

*'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'*

*"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'*

*"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'*

(Matthew 25:35-40)

Shalom,  
Michelle

# CycleHome 2023 Appreciation Ceremony: A Pedal-Powered Journey of Hope

# MAJOR

2 September 2023



Embarking on a mission to pedal for a purpose, we proudly launched our inaugural cycling fundraiser, **CycleHome 2023** on 23 May 2023 marking the beginning of a heartwarming journey to raise crucial funds for the reintegration efforts of each Girl back to her family.



**CycleHome** symbolises the unwavering commitment to stand by families navigating rough patches, providing a haven for teenage daughters to thrive and grow, and returning them back to safe homes. The event raised 79% of the \$125,000 targeted fund with participants clocking an accumulative 21,146km of distance during the fundraiser event.

An Appreciation Ceremony was held on 2 September 2023 to honour the dedication of partners, cyclists and donors, and to celebrate the success of **CycleHome 2023**. As the wheels of **CycleHome 2023** slowed to a stop, we would like to express heartfelt gratitude to all participants, sponsors, and partners who turned the pedals of change.

**Pedalling into the Future:** While we bask in the success of **CycleHome 2023**, the wheels are already turning for **CycleHome 2024**. Stay tuned for the exciting journey ahead as we gear up to raise crucial funds for the reintegration efforts for our Girls. Your support fuels the wheels of change, and we cannot wait to have you on board for another heartwarming cycling fundraiser in **2024!**

*Together, we pedal towards a future where collaboration and community continue to power the transformative work of Gladiolus Place.*



# EVENTS

## Gladiolus Place 25th Anniversary Open House & Thanksgiving Luncheon: A Transformation Unveiled

21 October 2023



*Under the radiant sun, we welcomed a vibrant assembly of supporters, friends, and esteemed guests to our 25th Anniversary Open House & Thanksgiving Luncheon on 21 October 2023.*



The event, a celebration of our journey, was graced by the presence of our Guest-of-Honour, Ms Tin Pei Ling, Adviser to MacPherson Grassroots Organisations and MP for MacPherson SMC while the Thanksgiving service was conducted by Reverend Srimal Marthenis, Vice Moderator of English Presbytery, The Presbyterian Church in Singapore.

The day unfolded with a ribbon cutting ceremony filled with an air of gratitude, followed by the heartfelt performances by our Girls, who shared glimpses of their talents and the joy they find in their safe haven at Gladiolus Place. As the melodies filled the air, the transformed spaces of our Home, a result of the successful Cyclical Maintenance renovations, served as a backdrop to the celebration. The guests were offered a rare opportunity to witness firsthand the metamorphosis within the space. Each space, thoughtfully designed to cater to the unique needs of our Girls, stands as a testament to the unwavering support we've received from Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) and our community.



We extend our deepest gratitude to Ms Tin Pei Ling for gracing us with her presence, adding a touch of honour to our celebration. To all our guests who shared in the enthusiasm and warmth of the day, your presence truly made the event unforgettable.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past 25 years, we look forward to the journey ahead, fueled by the support of our community.

A Gala Night to Remember:  
Celebrating 25 Years of Rebuilding Lives,  
Restoring Families

# MAJOR

16 November 2023



In the tapestry of Gladiolus Place's journey, the threads of resilience, hope, and transformation have woven together for an extraordinary 25 years. As we prepare to mark this significant milestone, our hearts swell with gratitude for the collective efforts that have shaped the legacy of Gladiolus Place.

Our story began with a simple mission — to offer solace and support to vulnerable teenage Girls in search of a safe haven. Two and a half decades later, the Gala Dinner stands as a testament to the profound impact we've made in the lives of countless young women. As we look back on our journey, we invite you to revel in the stories of resilience, the triumphs of transformation, and the unwavering commitment that have defined Gladiolus Place.



During the Gala Dinner, our Girls had the opportunity to showcase their magic skills, and their talents in dancing and singing together with our Guest-of-Honour Mr and Mrs George Goh during the Gala night.



This Gala Dinner was more than an event; it was a celebration of the lives touched, the partnerships forged, and the collective commitment that have sustained Gladiolus Place.

To everyone who joined us in celebrating 25 years of impact, your presence made it truly special.

Here's to 25 years and to many more ahead!

# EVENTS

## Artistry of Transformation: Illuminating Lives through 'Dancing Stars' & 'Iridescent Resilience'

Riding along the 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner, local Singaporean famed artist Barry Yeow graciously offered his artwork titled 'Dancing Stars' for auction to raise funds to support the reintegration work of each Girl back to her family. 'Dancing Stars' captures the ineffable beauty and profound significance of every soul. Much like stars in the night sky, each individual emanates a distinct radiance, a unique brilliance that can illuminate the world. The artwork was eventually auctioned off to an ardent supporter couple of Gladiolus Place.

When Barry was first introduced to us in September 2023, we were a mere 2 months away from our Gala Dinner. Having heard about our various therapeutic interventions including art therapy, used to support the unique healing journeys of each of our Girls, Barry was immediately aligned with our views about shaping lives through art. Lending his professional expertise as an artist and art educator, Barry collaborated with our Girls, guiding them in the exploration of art materials and mediums, conceptualising their thoughts, experiences and perspectives to be presented through art, and most importantly, guiding them in the use of art for self-discovery and self-expression.



In a span of only 2 months, Barry and 6 of our very own developing young artists proudly presented the artwork titled 'Iridescent Resilience' for auction. 'Iridescent Resilience' is a tapestry of the 6 young artists' personal narratives celebrating the transformative power of Hope. Like the iridescence found in nature's most fragile elements, the iridescent colours in this artwork suggest that Hope is not a static concept but a dynamic force that adapts and evolves.

The art collaboration with Barry and our Girls continue on, as we continue to invest in developing our promising young talents under Barry's tutelage, tapping on art's transformative power to shape lives.





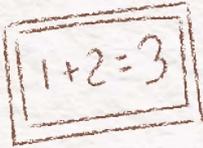
# PHOTO GALLERY



Exploring a magical journey of curiosity and learning at Fun-da-mentals Learning Centre's science enrichment branch Fun-da-lab!



ACADEMICS



A Day in a Bank!  
Learning Journey to UBS



Group Tuition by Student Volunteers from Hwa Chong Institution



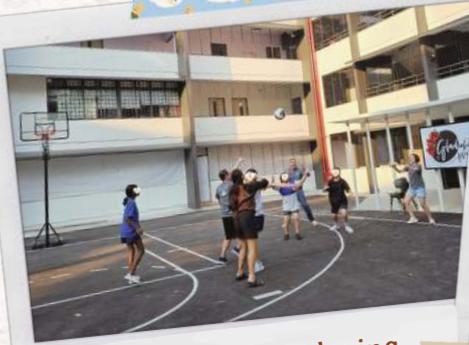
# OF PROGRAMMES



'Strike! Double Strike!' while bowling with STERIS



Soaking up sunshine vitamins and endorphins with DiveNut's Try Dive lessons



Sweating out playing Games and Sports with UBS



Workout with Volunteers Jon and Agnes at imPact@Hong Lim Green

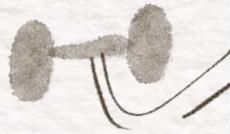


Painting Cat Postcards with The Bible Church



Getting creative while painting potted plants with Kerry Consulting

SPORTS & THE ARTS





# PHOTO GALLERY



Engaging in Teamwork and Creativity with ProjectWE by Student Volunteers from NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine



Sewing with Olive Tree, encouraging Creativity and Self-expression



Crocheting with Olive Tree



Encouraging Patience and Teamwork in Card Games with Youth For Christ



Learning every Girl's essential - Hello! Period Workshop with The Giving Flo

EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE  
LIFE SKILLS & SCIENCE



# OF PROGRAMMES



Learning about Gratitude with Cornerstone Community Services



Engaging with Seniors from the MacPherson neighbourhood while strolling at Botanic Gardens



Preparing for Community Food Distribution for Seniors around MacPherson neighbourhood with Volunteer Emi & MacPherson RC

Rather than Receiving, our Girls wanted to Give back to the Seniors from MacPherson neighbourhood through food distribution

CHARACTER & VALUES



# HEAR IT FROM OUR GIRL: A JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE AND TRIUMPH



Hi! My name is S., I'm 17 this year and I would like to share with you my journey and how I became a resident of Gladiolus Place. When my siblings and I were young we had bruises all over our body, and hitting was frequent in my parents' home. My primary school counsellor noticed my scars and was concerned for me, but I mostly shrugged off her concerns and did not dare to tell her that my family caused the bruises. The school would often bring me to the hospital. However, everytime others asked about how I got my injuries, I always told them that I fell down; even to my god-family who visited me at the hospital often. The authorities eventually found out that I had been abused by my parents and I have been placed in Childrens' Homes since then. I was only 10 years old.

I struggled to process the broken relationship that I had with my family and my godmother's passing took a toll on me. I started to become rebellious and did a lot of things that I regretted when I was in my previous Home. I also did a lot of harm to my body as I could not cope with the difficult emotions. I was suspended from school many times for my aggressive behaviours and for missing many school days. I broke a lot of chairs, broke into the staff room, took other residents' phones, ran out of the home and so on. I did those things so frequently that the police officers recognized me. The final straw came when I had climbed up a roof. They called the police and I was brought to IMH. I was told that I couldn't go back to my previous Home as they could not manage me, and they wanted to send me to Singapore Girls' Home. But my cousin came and brought me home.



I stayed with my cousin in March 2022. But as months went by, we started to argue more. I felt most hurt when she sat her kids down on the couch one day and told them that they shouldn't be like me. At that moment, I was so angry that I ran out of the house and met my social worker at a youth centre and told them that I had run away after an argument with my cousin. Subsequently, the police came and brought me to the hospital after my cousin informed them that I had expressed suicidal thoughts at the idea of going back. So I stayed there for about two weeks before I met my CPO, who helped me to apply to ITE and talked to me about my placement. I was admitted to **Gladiolus Place (GP)** a few days later. That's when I met our Head of Home Sister Michelle, and the rest of the residents.



I saw my new Home for the first time on 22 December 2022, met the other residents, and celebrated Christmas. I quickly felt at home as the staff and residents were always there to assist me. They provided us with regular mealtimes, and I knew that I could always reach out to them for anything I needed. I appreciated that they always made time for me when I'm feeling down, and always provided a listening ear when I wanted. There are fun programmes like outings to bowl, ice-skate, and watch football matches. There are also in-house programmes like family time, learning life skills, and taking care of the cats. My most favourite place in GP is the cat room, because I get to stay with the cats and play with them. Whenever I'm upset or not in the right 'mood', I will see the cats. And when I see them, I feel most at home. We are always taken good care of whenever there are volunteers. They will make sure that we have fun and that we are happy at the same time. I also have a befriender!



Fearless

However, I continued to struggle in keeping up my attendance at ITE so I dropped out in March. I was at a loss and did not know what my options were except for reapplying for ITE. But one day, Sis Michelle and my Caseworker Sis Valerie asked me if I was interested in going for a traineeship program at Hatch in digital marketing. I was hesitant at first because I did not know if I would be able to stay throughout the 10-week program, but I tried to believe in myself and I signed up. During those 10-weeks I met many wonderful girls and mentors, and learned various things about digital marketing. I felt that I was able to complete something, and I was glad that GP continued to encourage me and told me not to give up on my studies.

Throughout my life, I was downcasted and I did not get to experience the love and comfort I needed from a proper family and have a normal teenage life. However, these experiences also allowed me to meet kind and supportive people (like Sis Michelle, Sis Valerie and other Staff of GP). These are the people that have kept me going. I wish to make them proud, and I carried my godmother's passing wishes with me to do better and study harder. I look forward to starting ITE again in a new campus but definitely to study harder and do better than last time. After my studies, I would like to get a stable job related to digital marketing and support my godfather. I do not know what might happen in the future, but I will try to shape my life now, to prove to others that I am able to make it, when I'm given a second chance.



# STAFF FEATURE: LEAD FAMILY CARE OFFICER AND CASEWORKER GRACE

## GRACE'S Journey



Grace is a Lead Family Care Officer (LFCO) and a Caseworker at Gladiolus Place (GP).

In her final year of university, while searching for a job in the social service sector, she discovered GP's job opening for the position of a Family Care Officer (FCO).

The importance of children's homes, where providing a safe haven and the potential for a brighter future for vulnerable children, deeply resonated with her.

This connection stemmed from her past volunteering experiences, where she witnessed firsthand the transformative impact a nurturing and supportive environment can have on young lives that had experienced significant challenges and adversity.

Motivated by both personal experiences and her educational background, she holds a strong belief that all forms of humanitarian assistance should be conducted ethically, with a primary focus on upholding the dignity of the clients. GP's mission and approach resonated with her, leading her to apply for the FCO position.

She joined GP as an FCO in June 2020 and later transitioned to the role of doing casework in February 2021. After a year of hands-on casework, she seized an opportunity to further develop her leadership and management skills by taking on the role of LFCO. Since then, she has been actively engaged in both portfolios, contributing to the holistic support and care provided at GP.

*We caught up with Grace to find out more about what motivates her every day!*

**Q1** What is your work in GP on a daily basis and interactions like with the Girls? 

In essence, my role as a LFCO entails supervising the Family Care team who attends to the needs of our Girls within the Home, and as a Caseworker, I attend to the needs of our Girls outside of the Home.

The Family Care team provides round-the-clock care and supervision for our Girls. The significant amount of time spent with our Girls places the FCOs in a privileged position to forge deeper relationships with them and in turn deeply impact their lives by, for example, imparting life skills, detecting any emotional or behavioural changes and providing basic counsel. The observations made of the Girls will then be communicated to the therapy team as both teams work hand-in-hand to offer therapeutic interventions.

As a Caseworker, I work closely with my fellow FCOs, GP Therapy team, and external stakeholders to collaboratively assess the risks and needs of each Girl and their families, and to plan appropriate interventions for them while monitoring their progress throughout their stay with us.



## Q2 Tell us more about yourself in a personal context?

I brought home one of GP's therapy cats! Slider was one of GP's original therapy cats that brought much comfort and companionship to both our Girls and Staff with his gentle and affectionate nature. He was later diagnosed with feline leukaemia virus, an incurable disease that's transmittable between cats, and had to be housed singly. He has since found a forever home with my family and has effortlessly continued to bring comfort and companionship to us the past 2 years!

## Q3 Are there any memorable or impactful moments you would like to share that have influenced who you are today?

One of the volunteering experiences that had left a profound impact on me was with a children's home overseas. I had spent a mere 2 weeks with the Home and I was convinced that there is a need for long-term volunteers as much as the need for short-term volunteers. Long-term volunteers play a pivotal role in providing consistency and stability in relationships for these children who have experienced broken relationships in their own homes and many of whom harbour fears of abandonment. This conviction has compelled me to sponsor a child's daily expenses and education, and to connect with him through a facilitated call on a monthly basis. It has also laid the foundation for my commitment to journey with our Girls at GP long-term!



## Q4 What are your challenges? How do you overcome them?

One of the greatest challenges in my work is to help our Girls to understand that discipline can be carried out in love, and as a result of love. Rules and boundaries are set in place to protect and nurture our Girls but they can understandably be perceived as a lack of love instead. It is a constant effort to build therapeutic rapport and to help our Girls to trust that I am the same person who loves them before, after, and also during these moments of discipline.

## Q5 How do you deal with the Girls when they have "emotional dysregulation"?

Emotional dysregulation manifests itself in many different ways. At GP, we recognise the importance of practicing trauma-informed care and have incorporated it in our practices throughout the Home, including the management of emotional dysregulations. In moments when a Girl is emotionally dysregulated, I think it's particularly important as a professional to see beyond the behaviours that she's exhibiting and to accurately identify what she's trying to communicate through them instead. When the Girl is emotionally stable, I will also then collaborate with other stakeholders to implement interventions that will help mitigate triggers, and help the Girl to better express her emotions and to cope with them.

## Q6 What is your message to everyone?

Thank you for believing that every one of our Girls deserves an opportunity to heal and to have a brighter future, and for standing alongside us in a myriad of ways to make this a reality. In my interactions with strangers and stakeholders, even about the work that I do at GP, it has been disheartening to hear our Girls still often stereotyped as delinquents and to have opportunities withheld from them simply because of the fact that they reside in a children's home. Their unique circumstances that resulted in their need for a place of safety outside of their own homes during this season of their lives and their potential in life are often overlooked. GP is continuously working to dismantle such stereotypes, and in this uphill task, your unwavering support and belief in our Girls have provided invaluable encouragement to all of us here at GP! Thank you for being a part of our team :)

# SUPPORT US!

## Donation & Support

As a non-profit residential Home, we are continuously seeking out like-minded individuals or corporations who would support the work of the Home by funding the needs of our Girls which includes meals, daily necessities, academics, therapeutic interventions, or to support us by extending their time and talents. This enables us to carry out our mission to bring about healing for brokenness, renewal of minds and restoration of our Girls to their families and their communities.

### Here are some ways you can help:

#### 1. Make a Donation

Recurring monthly donations or once-off donations may be made via 4 channels. GP is a charity with Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status. As such donations of \$10 and above are entitled to a tax deduction of 2.5 times the amount received. Official tax-deductible receipt will be issued to individuals or corporations who provide their **NRIC/FIN/UEN**.

#### 2. Grant a Wish list

The everyday needs of the Girls and the running operations of the Home are relentless. The daily essentials, household appliances and necessities are items which often require replenishing. Gladiolus Place's wishlist can be found here: [gladiolusplace.org.sg/donate](http://gladiolusplace.org.sg/donate).

#### 3. Volunteer your Time and Talents

Over the years, individual volunteers and corporations have extended their willing hands and their loving support to touch the lives of our Girls and Staff. We are grateful for their support. We continue to seek skills-based volunteers as well as volunteers for programmes and events. Getting started is as simple as registering your interest with us at [info@gladiolusplace.org.sg](mailto:info@gladiolusplace.org.sg) and we will be in touch!

## Sponsor-A-Girl

Join many others who are sponsoring our Girls' daily necessities in the amount shown below, or any other amounts you wish to contribute!

### Cost per month per Girl:



**\$100**  
School  
Necessities



**\$150**  
Utilities &  
Daily Care



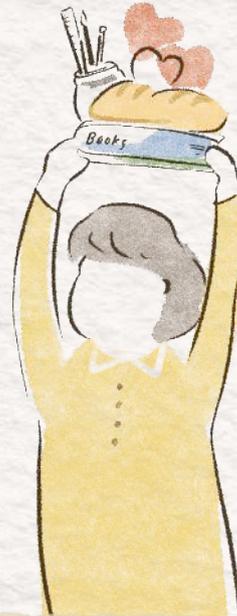
**\$300**  
Counselling  
& Therapy



**\$450**  
Meals



**\$600**  
Reintegration work  
for the Girl & Family



You may also visit our website for more information:  
[gladiolusplace.org.sg](http://gladiolusplace.org.sg).



## 4 Donation Channels



### Paynow via QR Code



Add your **Name, Contact Number & NRIC/FIN/UEN** under the UEN/Bill Reference section

### Bank Transfer/GIRO:

Kindly arrange a standing instruction with your bank to:  
**PCS - Gladiolus Place**  
DBS Autosave Account No.  
033-9000043-4

### Cash/Cheque:

Write a cheque in favour of  
**PCS - Gladiolus Place**  
and mail it to us at:  
**6A Mattar Road,**  
Singapore 387715

### Online Donation Platforms

Make a **one-time** or **recurring donation** securely with your credit/debit card via our **online donation platforms** where every transaction enjoys **250% tax deduction** at:

**Giving.sg:** [giving.sg/donate/campaign/GP2024](http://giving.sg/donate/campaign/GP2024)  
**Give.Asia:** [give.asia/charity/gladiolusplace](http://give.asia/charity/gladiolusplace)





# ABOUT US



*If you're new here, let us share our story.*

Gladiolus Place is a non-profit residential Home for vulnerable Girls from all walks of life aged 11 and above. We provide care for Girls who face abuse, neglect and are at risk of delinquency. We seek to bring healing, renewal and eventual restoration of these young lives with their families and communities. As a licensed Voluntary Children and Young Persons Homes (CYP Homes), we align with the Singapore Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) to ensure high quality standards of care provided to each and every Girl that comes through our doors.

We strive to develop each Girl holistically, in body, mind and spirit, in a safe and loving family home away from home environment. Through programmes, therapeutic interventions and round-the-clock trauma-informed care, we endeavour to see each Girl walk towards recovery and wholeness.

## *Every Girl Loved, Every Life Transformed*

### **Our Mission**

For every Girl who walks through our doors - healing for their brokenness, renewal to their minds, and restoration to their families and communities - so that they may contribute to society and fulfil their God-given destinies.

### **Our Story**

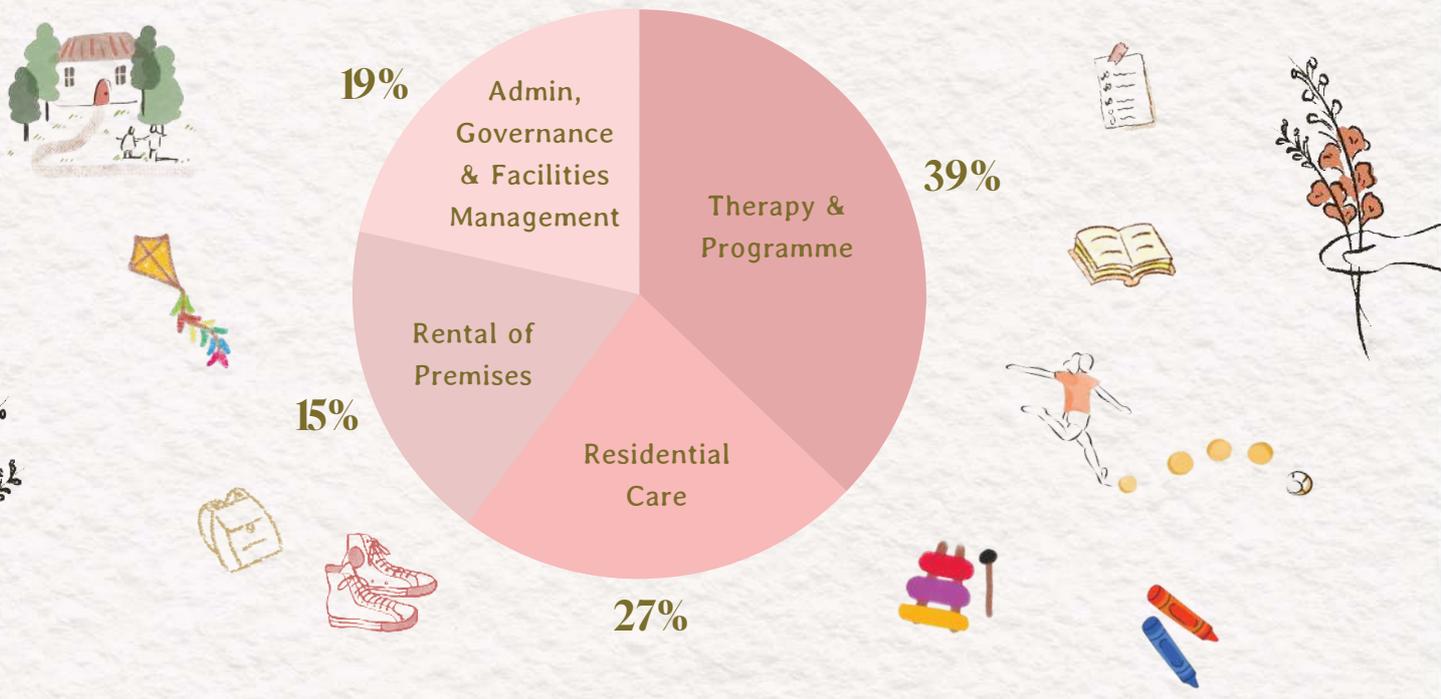
For a quarter of a century since 1998, Gladiolus Place has been a safe, healing space for vulnerable teenage Girls who have come under our wings in their time of need. It was founded as Andrew and Grace Home to provide refuge for troubled teenage Girls and sheltered protection for mothers and mothers-to-be by now-retired Pastor Andrew Choo and Mrs Grace Choo. The Home was renamed in 2018 and took the namesake from the Gladiolus flower which was named after the Latin word for 'sword' and represents strength, honour and dignity. It is our sincere hope that each Girl who passes through Gladiolus Place will bloom with such virtues and values. Ms Michelle Tan took over the management helm as Executive Director and Head of Home in September 2018 and has been actively working with the Girls and Staff to drive improvements since then. The Home currently provides shelter and rehabilitation for up to 40 teenage Girls who present with Child Protection concerns.

### **Our Philosophy**

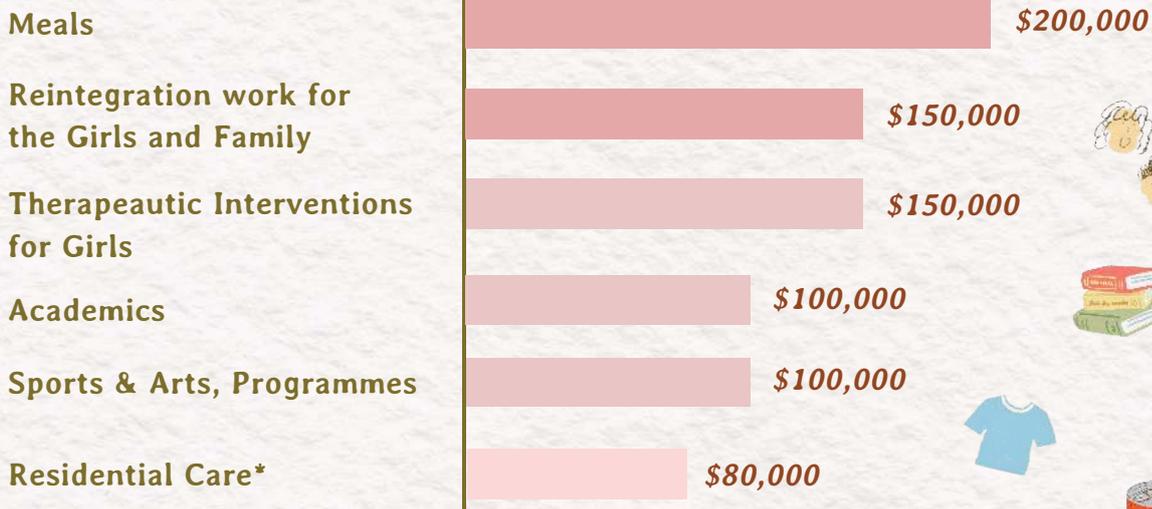
From the very first day a Girl arrives at our door, we view and respect her as a uniquely designed child. Through our rigorous assessment, we create an individualised, tailored interventions and programme for her, which will address her unique rehabilitative needs, as well as interests, abilities and gifts.

# RESOURCE ALLOCATION

A brief breakdown of Gladiolus Place's Operating Expenditure:



## Annual Financial Support Required for Key Areas<sup>^</sup>



*\*Our Residential Care ensures holistic support for our Girls. From nutritious meals to daily personal care, school necessities, and healthcare support, we prioritize every aspect of their well-being. This includes but not limited to meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Tea time & Supper), daily care essentials (toiletries, laundry, and hygiene care), school-related needs (transportation, books, stationeries and extracurricular fees) and emergency medical assistance.*

*<sup>^</sup>Key areas are subject to change, to cater to the ever evolving needs of our Girls. GP reserves the right to reallocate the donated funds to other key areas of operation works.*

# WHAT WE DO

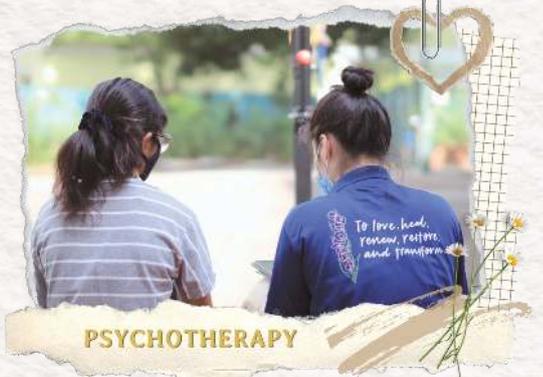
## Therapeutic Interventions

There is no cookie-cutter solution to address years of trauma and prolonged neglect and/or abuse experienced by our Girls. Hence, by using various arms of therapeutic interventions, we ensure that each Girl is on the path to healing through means that are most effective for her.

### Psychotherapy



In safe spaces of non-judgement, our Girls have weekly 1-1 sessions to navigate through difficult past experiences and walk towards healing.



PSYCHOTHERAPY

### Family Therapy



Reintegration of our Girls back with their families and communities is the mission of Gladiolus Place. To facilitate this, family therapy offers the opportunity for our Girls and their Family members to work through any challenges in communication and expectations.



FAMILY THERAPY

### Art Therapy



Trauma-related emotions and non-verbal memories are often difficult to put into words. Thus, art therapists work with our Girls to understand their past, and look towards the future. Using Art as a universal language, our Girls are guided to verbalise what words often cannot.

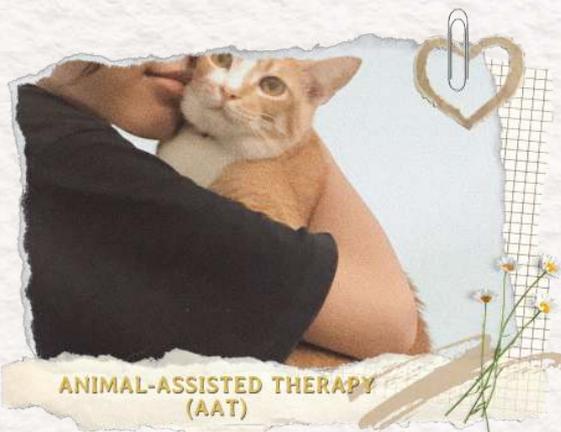


ART THERAPY

### Animal - Assisted Therapy



In partnership with N Parks Animal Veterinary Service (AVS), Gladiolus Place fosters cats, as part of our Animal-Assisted Interventions. Our Girls care for these cats daily and through that, learn the discipline of taking care of loved ones and form strong attachments with them. This human-animal bond helps in the healing of psychological and emotional trauma.



ANIMAL-ASSISTED THERAPY (AAT)

# WHAT WE DO

## Programmes

Our daily programmes target to heal, renew, restore, and transform every Girl's body, mind and spirit through the four focus areas of Gladiolus Place.



### Academics

Academic excellence is the pathway to opportunities and success. Hence, we place importance on helping our Girls by addressing back-to-school bridging issues and provide the required support and education for who struggle in this area.



### Sports & the Arts

We strongly believe that a healthy mind begins with a healthy body. Physical activities help to maintain a healthy physical body while the Arts help to stimulate brain development. Both activities require practice and drive while opening up opportunities to cultivate and display the Girls' talents and interests.



### Life Skills and Socio-Emotional Resilience

We see the importance of arming all of our Girls with life skills such as cleaning, cooking, financial literacy, self-care and securing stable jobs, especially for the older Girls working towards independent living. We also believe in the importance of bracing our Girls with socio-emotional resilience to weather future challenges. Programmes such as emotional regulation programmes will help the Girls learn to get in touch with their emotions and develop constructive responses to various emotional experiences.



### Characters & Values

Teenage years are a formative period in one's life. During the Girls' time away from their family and communities, we seek to impart sound and wise values to help them build good character.

**Respect, Love & Courtesy, Integrity, Care, Excellence in attitudes and Discipline that is consistent** are the core values that we pass on to our Girls, in hopes that they will live out these principles even when they leave Gladiolus Place one day.

# *Every Girl Loved, Every Life Transformed*

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