



ANNUAL EVENTS & UPDATES

Gladiolus Place

Every Girl loved, Every Life transformed.

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FOREWORD

The year of 2019 heralds a newness to Gladiolus Place. Since the last update in December 2018, we have seen much transformation, not just in the operational work that we do but in the culture of the Home.

In January, we have been privileged to be selected beneficiary for Speaker Tan Chuan-Jin's fundraising Photo Exhibition celebrating Singapore's Bicentennial Year - *Our Place in the World*, which documents his travels around the globe.

A pioneer parent-and-child arts workshop was also carried out by our Therapy Team at Gardens by the Bay. It was lovely to see the time of bonding between the residents and their families.

The March holidays was also a chance for the Girls to participate in many fun

programs. This was very quickly followed by a major inhouse event - our Homecoming Carnival on the 23rd of June, with both the staff and girls working hard to make it happen. It was a joyful time of welcoming our friends and supporters into the Home.

Shortly after, we had our Flag Day and a movie event for charity, with a wonderful turnout.

We closed the year with a bang with FamilyFest by the Bay, an event in collaboration with Fullerton Heritage Group and Jujie's Happy Kitchen.

A big thank you to everyone who has generously supported our mission through your monetary donations, time, and skills! We're glad to have you on board with us as we forge ahead on this exciting journey!

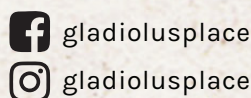
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Director's Note

Dear Friends, Supporters, Partners of Gladiolus Place, warmest greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Welcome to the annual newsletter of Gladiolus Place for 2019!

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I share the numerous happenings in 2019 with you. So much has happened that it is simply impossible to note all of it here, but I hope that this newsletter will capture snapshots of the year that has just passed, and give a glimpse into our hopes and dreams for the year(s) ahead!

2019 was a busy year for us all at GP. We extended our reach to more residents, we grew our staff team. We upped the quality of the care and therapeutic interventions we provide to our girls. We structured targeted and effective daily programs for our Girls, designed to hone their socio-emotional skills, support their academia, build character and strengthen familial relationships.

We expanded our therapeutic interventions to families of our Girls as well. This ensures that by the time our resident is discharged and re-integrated to her family, her family has been equipped with the skills and necessary support to provide a safe and nurturing environment for her. Come 2020, beyond the talk therapy and art therapy we currently employ with our residents, we are setting up a dedicated pet therapy room to facilitate our move towards incorporating in-house animal-assisted therapy in our work with our Girls. This room will house amongst other animals, previously homeless cats which have since been rescued.

We are so thankful that our efforts have been bearing fruit. We see lives transformed as we seek to love every Girl who walks through our doors. And by the grace of God, we have witnessed the healing of emotional wounds inflicted by

the traumatic experiences our Girls and their families have undergone. In 2019, we successfully restored and discharged close to 10 residents to their families and their communities.

In the midst of our busyness however, the Lord had two themes engraved upon my heart. One - that He says to "be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). What assurance this brings to my heart, amidst the constant deluge, and obstacles we have had to overcome! Two - to stay true to the very mission and calling of our Home, to persevere in loving every Girl, every day and every moment, with every thought, word and deed, with the love of Christ, even when it is challenging at times to do so. So that we may present these Girls clothed in strength and honour, ready to fulfill their God-given destinies in their lives.

Here, I would like to thank all our volunteers, donors, supporters, friends and partners for your continual support over the past year. None of what we are doing would be possible if not for the support and resources you have poured out unreservedly to us. As cliché as this sounds, it does indeed take a community to raise a child. Thank you for being this community to us, and to our Girls at GP.

Looking back at 2019, I thank God for His faithful provisions which have enabled our work to take flight, key areas of which include donations both monetary and in kind, as well as the right people who have joined us both as staff and as volunteers. As we usher in 2020, we trust the Lord for His continued provision in these areas, without which our work would not be possible. Please pray with us, and I look forward to continuing this journey with all of you in the days ahead. And may the Lord our God be glorified always.

Shalom,
Michelle

OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

A BICENTENNIAL PHOTO EXHIBITION BY TAN CHUAN-JIN



Speaker Tan Chuan-Jin's Photo Exhibition Tea Reception

Our Place in the World

Speaker Tan Chuan-Jin's Photo Exhibition, *Our Place in the World*, ran from 1-28 February at Far East Plaza. Organized by Hope Initiative Alliance (HIA), this photo exhibition supports 13 charities and non-profit organisations including Breakthrough Missions, Care Corner, Healthserve, and The Turning Point. Gladiolus Place is blessed to be a beneficiary of this fundraising drive as well.

Our Place in the World is a visual documentation of Speaker Tan Chuan-Jin's travels, and is his way of giving back to the marginalized by supporting these charities through the sales of these collaterals. Of course, this is a

collective effort which would not have been possible if it weren't for each donor that came alongside us. What a meaningful way of celebrating our Bicentennial!

The fundraising drive featured stunning metal print photos going for \$10,000, photobooks at \$1,000 and \$5,000, and postcard sets going at \$50 each, with all proceeds donated to charity. Each beneficiary organisation has a private fund pool through which we've managed to raise over \$150,000 through your contributions! A special thank you to Hope Initiative Alliance (HIA) and Speaker Tan Chuan-Jin, and to all of you for supporting this event!



Exclusive Metal Print (top)
and Premium Photobook



Exhibition Launch on 31 January at Far East Plaza

Pictured from left to right are Mr Shaun Ho (Member of our Management Committee), Mrs Patricia Lum-Vijayendran (Chairperson of our Management Committee), Ms Michelle Tan (our Director/Head of Home), Speaker Tan Chuan-Jin, and Mr Desmond Ng, a supporter and donor of Gladiolus Place.

Speaker Tan talking animatedly about his photography to Heng Swee Keat, who is expected to succeed PM Lee Hsien Loong.

Gladiolus Place was privileged to have been a part of all three tea receptions on 8th, 20th and 25th February at Far East Plaza, along with our esteemed guests and friends of Gladiolus Place.

The tea receptions started at 5pm and lasted until 7-8pm, with a VIP tour of the photo exhibition and delicious food catered from Fullerton.



Friends of Gladiolus Place



Some of our invited guests and friends, who generously donated toward our mission!

Gladiolus Place would like to extend a warm thank you to everyone as well as members of Covenant Presbyterian Church (CPC) for the warm response!

Parent-and-Child Workshops at Gardens By the Bay

This March saw Gladiolus Place's first workshop not only involving residents, but their families as well! This was pioneered by our Therapy Team and helmed by GP's art therapist, who incorporated art and nature therapy into the programme of the workshop to encourage bonding between the residents and their families (both parents and siblings).

Restoring our Girls to their families and communities is what we work towards since day one of our resident's stay with us. The process may not always be smooth-sailing, but it is certainly rewarding to see the fruits of everyone's labour, and to see barriers being broken down between parent and

child in the duration of this workshop. The workshop, carried out on 2nd March, featured an art therapy activity where parents and children were encouraged to paint on one another's hands and faces. This encourages physical touch between the parent and child, and creates vulnerability and trust in the relationship. Overall, it was a wonderful time spent together in the beautiful Flower Dome, and one step closer to our mission to restore the Girls to their families.

Residents and their family members participating in art therapy





**Fun in the sun with our volunteers
from Nanyang Girls' High School**

March Holiday Adventures!

16-24 March were the March holidays in Singapore and the Girls went all out to have fun with the various activities lined up for them with volunteers and staff. Each day had a different activity and we are really grateful for our sponsors for providing the Girls with this opportunity.

All in all, the Girls got to visit East Coast Park, watch Captain Marvel at Eagles' Wings Cinematics, visit SPCA, try their hand (or legs) at bubble soccer, play bowling at Westbowl and exercise at the Stadium.

Not bad for a week's worth of holidays!





**Bowling at
Westbowl
sponsored by
Mr Randy**

Bubble soccer sponsored by Redemption Hill Church

For many Girls and staff, it was their first time playing bubble soccer! Thanks to our volunteers and sponsors from Redemption Hill Church, the Girls were able to give this a try.



Visit to SPCA

Many of our residents are very fond of animals and we have monthly visits from Healing Paws who brought their dogs to engage our residents in pet therapy. In March we brought the residents on this special visit to SPCA. Pet therapy is one of our therapeutic interventions to destress and facilitate socialization between the residents.



Homecoming Carnival

Most of our June was spent gearing up for our Homecoming Carnival on the 23rd of June. We welcomed on board with us five interns from SMU, NUS, and NIE, who worked with us tirelessly in the short runway up to the actual Homecoming Carnival! This carnival was organized as a way of appreciation to the churches who have supported us generously and faithfully over the years. The invitation for a family-friendly day of fun was extended to our friends at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Grace Baptist Church, St. James' Church, Yishun Christian Church and a few others. This carnival was also very much volunteer-driven, as the various booths at the carnival were sponsored and managed by our supportive friends at different churches, who also spread the word about Gladiolus Place to their family and friends. Carnival coupons were priced at \$20 per sheet, with an array of food and games stalls to spend it on, including a bouncy castle-cum-obstacle course, pebble painting, archery, and delicious prata from Springleaf, hot dogs, candy floss and popcorn.

The families of our residents were also invited to this event, where they were able to witness their

daughters' talents and strengths.

The doors opened at 10:30am, with the day's programs including exclusive tours of Gladiolus Place led by our residents, to areas of interest such as the art room, the counselling room, the garden, and even a tour of the residents' bedrooms. Some of our residents were also encouraged and empowered to put on live performances of dance and song, with one resident even showcasing her songwriting abilities, featuring an original she had penned herself!

The carnival turnout was great and we were really glad that all our visitors left with a new idea of what Gladiolus Place is like. Many of them were also very amazed at the Girls' enthusiasm for performances, manning booths, and leading them around the premises to show off different areas of the Home! Truly, it was a Homecoming Carnival where different families came together. It couldn't have been possible without our various sponsors and volunteers from different churches rising up to the occasion.



Our residents greeting visitors at the gate with balloons



Original song performance by our GP resident!

Various booths

Fancy art and craft, games, or simply good food? We had something for everyone of different ages, including a nerf gun booth, glitter tattoos, henna art, tile-painting, and live performances by our residents and interns!



*Thank you to
all who helped!*



July-August Events

6 July marked our Flag Day with our enthusiastic and kind volunteers from Covenant Presbyterian Church (CPC) and Anglican High School (AHS)! We're thankful for the generosity of the public who donated while we stood in the heat of the scorching sun. A shoutout to our personal friends and family who came down to help out and support in raising funds for GP!

Shortly after on 24 August, GP hosted a charity movie fundraiser with an exclusive screening of *Overcomer* by the Kendrick Brothers (directors of *War Room*, *Facing the Giants*, and *Fireproof*) at SaltMedia and Entertainment's state of the art cinema auditorium at Capital Tower. The movie tells the story of an unlikely athlete, Hannah Scott, and her coach, John Harrison, in overcoming life's challenges and finding their identities. We are happy that we had a full house turnout and many were encouraged by the film.



Visit from Marina Bay Sands



On 27th July, staff from Marina Bay Sands came to Gladiolus Place to give our Girls' bedrooms a fresh coat of paint. Their Executive Chef also came to teach the Girls how to cook! In conjunction with this, parents were invited to come and taste their daughters' meal of Chicken Adobo. Parents were also presented with a cactus which symbolized resilience, strength, and tenacity to encourage them in their parenting journeys.

Cancer Can Give

Gladiolus Place was pleased to partner with AstraZeneca in its Cancer Can Give movement, to equip our residents with soft and hard skills for the future. Our residents had a joint art therapy session on 15 September at the Singapore Cancer Society Rehabilitation Centre with 4 cancer survivors. Our residents were greatly moved and impacted by the stories of hope shared by the cancer survivors.

In putting the art pieces by our residents and the cancer survivors together, it formed a lovely connected mural intertwined with personal stories!





Family Fest By the Bay

7 December marked our long-awaited year-end event that had been months in the planning in collaboration with the Fullerton Heritage Group and Jujie's Happy Kitchen, with Gladiolus Place as the main beneficiary. We had booths selling Christmas-themed foods such as Italian Panettone and home-baked Christmas cookies, heritage finger-food prepared by the Fullerton Hotel, as well as other booths selling craft, jewellery and clothes.

Gladiolus Place also anchored a basketball shootout for charity at the event on a pay-to-play basis, with support from basketball teams from Nanyang High Girls' School, Raffles Girls' School and Standard Chartered Bank. Other charitable organisations such as Children's Aid Society were also invited to raise funds for their beneficiaries and promote their organisations at the event.

Our residents also put up dance and song performances throughout the event, and we're very proud of their hard work and talent! We would also love to thank everyone who supported us in one way or another, as it would not have been the same without you!

OUR SUPPORTERS

FaMA Fit (Fitness and Martial Arts) is an independent gym offering Fitness, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Muay Thai and kids' martial art classes, catering to all skill levels and abilities, from beginners to seasoned athletes. Visit their website at www.famafit.com and book a trial today!

Aeipathy (formerly located at SCAPE) is a local fashion brand that now sells online and through their Telegram channel, as well as events like ArtBox. Aeipathy offers trendy and affordable clothes for ladies. Subscribe to their Telegram channel at <https://t.me/AeipathyStore> and visit their Instagram page at [@aeipathy.sg](https://www.instagram.com/aeipathy.sg)!

Koinonia Salon is a Korean hair salon located at 71 Seng Poh Road #01-47, S160071 and is open Mondays through Saturdays from 10am to 8pm. They offer a wide range of services including Perms, Rebonding and Volume Rebonding, Coloring, Highlights, Hair/Scalp Treatment and Men/Ladies' Hair Cuts. Take a look at their portfolio at www.koinoniasalon.com!

The Little Rice Company is a Singapore rice company that believes in growing rice and growing lives in developing countries like Myanmar. They are experienced in cultivating high quality rice and aim to improve the farmers' livelihoods by bringing them technology, thereby producing yield efficiently for consumers in a traceable manner. Visit their website at www.thelittlericecompany.com!

Our Booths

Amongst our numerous offerings, our booth featured Christmas cards designed by our own residents, as well as handmade upcycled craft from our own residents, including handmade coasters, upcycled pouches and hair accessories.

Our booths also sold various items that were donated from different businesses and organisations that wanted to show their support for Gladiolus Place, with products like clothes, jewellery and handpainted pebble paperweights.



A volunteer, Marco (pictured) who regularly conducted basketball classes with our residents, and school teams from Nanyang High Girls' School and Raffles' Girls' School playing in the basketball shootout



Handpainted pebbles from our youngest supporters - Joelle & Co. from Henry Park Primary School



Song cover by our residents of the classic inspirational song You Raise Me Up by Josh Groban



One of the best gelatos in town - Alfredo Gelato served up timeless flavours such as Hazelnut, Ferrero Rocher, Pistachio and Chocolate



Christmas at Gladiolus Place



Our staff team, interns and girls celebrated Christmas together on the 24th of December! Angels & Mortals between the staff and Girls were unveiled, a Christmas potluck was put together by our staff team, carols were sung and gifts exchanged! It was truly heartwarming to celebrate this occasion with the Girls, to see their excitement and joy as they bonded over music and good food, and as they received presents from our staff and donors.

Our greatest gift is the privilege to care for the Girls at GP, and help them to fulfill their dreams. We are truly glad to be able to bring joy into their lives as much as they bring joy to us, to see them grow each year and witness how their lives are touched and transformed at GP. A blessed Christmas from our GP family to you and a Happy New Year!

Merry Christmas



Our marvellous Christmas lunch was put together by our staff team, with a wonderful variety of delicious homecooked pasta, roast chicken, Christmas ham, traditional panettone, sushi, finger foods and salads!

Big thanks to our social worker, Elaine, for coordinating all of this and the heartfelt effort put in by our staff in preparing the scrumptious feast!

Angel & Mortal Unveiling!



Our staff and Girls exchanging gifts at the unveiling of their Angels & Mortals!

Our new and refreshed logo incorporates the gladiolus flower and captures the youthfulness and vibrancy of Gladiolus Place and her beneficiaries whom we are privileged to journey with!



The Youth Workers and Family Care Officers of Gladiolus Place!

About Us

Gladiolus Place is a Christian residential refuge for teenage Girls. Here, we strive to develop each resident holistically, in her body, mind, soul and spirit, in a safe and loving family environment.

Our therapeutic interventions are specifically designed for this purpose, in the core areas of academic, vocational, physical and character development. We envision for each Girl, under our care and nurturing, to bloom like the Gladiolus flower, clothed in strength and honour, empowered to be women of dignity and confidence, so that they may live their lives to the fullest, as intended by Christ.

DONATE TO OUR MISSION:



SUPPORT US

Donate

If you wish to make a donation today, please write your cheque in favour of "PCS - Gladiolus Place", and mail it to 6A Mattar Road Singapore 387715. Please do indicate your name and NRIC number as these are required for tax exemption from IRAS. All outright donations will be entitled to a tax deduction of 2.5 times the amount received. To find out more, write to Ming Shiang at mingshiang@gladiolusplace.org.sg.

Volunteer

If you are interested to partner or intern with us, write to us at info@gladiolusplace.org.sg to see which areas you can help in!

You can also indicate your area of interest if you have something in mind, and we can work something out with you!

