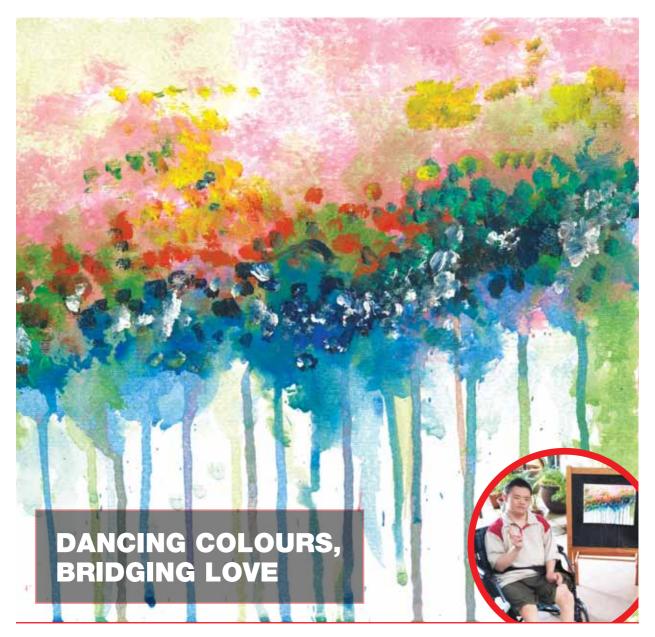
redcross

ISSUE THREE 2016 MCI (P) 075/03/2016

A MAGAZINE BY SINGAPORE RED CROSS



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LAUNCH OF RED CROSS YOUTH CLUB

A RACE TO SAVE LIVES ASH MOBILE APP GAME

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Singapore Red Cross

needs your help!

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😣 Complete

awarded with the Gold

all levels and be

Medal Milestone!





Save lives by

time limit!

racing to collect blood within the



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On the cover, "Rain at the Garden" is the masterpiece of Quan Yao, a resident of the Red Cross Home for the Disabled. More on page 27.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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A **socially inclusive society** is one where people feel valued, their differences are respected, and their basic needs are met so they can live in dignity.

In this issue of the Red Cross magazine, we bring you three updates of initiatives that represent our enduring efforts in the promotion of social inclusiveness in Singapore.

We are proud to have launched the nation's first inclusive club for youth with and without intellectual disabilities. The launch of Red Cross Youth @ APSN Delta Senior School was, in the words of our Guest of Honour, Minister Gan Kim Yong, "an epitome of social inclusiveness and cohesiveness." This collaboration with the Associations of Persons with Special Needs (APSN) Delta Senior School and Special Olympics Asia Pacific, marks a significant milestone in Singapore Red Cross' (SRC) commitment to the development of youth with special needs to be humanitarian leaders of the future. We hope to grow our involvement in this sector. *More on Page 15.*

The handiworks of the residents of our Red Cross Home for the Disabled were proudly showcased and auctioned at Artistry Cafe in the "Dancing Colours, Bridging Love" exhibition. The artworks were the collective labour of love by residents, employees of Google Singapore, AsiaWorks Training (Singapore) Pte Ltd and the Home. Working handin-hand, the artists demonstrated love and hope beyond their physical and mental disabilities. It was made possible through Google Cardboard a virtual reality (VR) platform developed by Google with a fold-out cardboard viewer. We thank our partners and donors for their outpouring of support. More on Page 27.

We are privileged to have Mayor Futoshi Toba of Rikuzentakata deliver the latest edition of the Singapore Red Cross Humanitarian Lecture Series. In reviving the spirit of the People of Rikuzentakata - which suffered total devastation from the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami of 2011 - Mayor Toba galvanised his diversified connections, to implement one of the largest reconstruction projects in Japan - to rebuild the city of Rikuzentakata. At the public lecture, he shared his vision of rebuilding Rikuzentakata into a liveable, resilient and inclusive society, and his efforts on "intentional inclusion and integration", for people with special needs to feel at home. *More on Page 16.*

Inspired? Tell us how YOU embrace inclusiveness at home, work, school and in your community! Drop us a line on facebook/sgredcross or tag your instagram photos @sgredcross.

Benjamin William Secretary General / CEO

Scene



GLIMPSE OF HUMANITARIAN WORK - IN THE PARK

For the first time, we presented our local humanitarian services at NParks Concert Series in the Park: Rockestra® and Car Free Sunday at Empress Lawn respectively on 25 and 26 June. Our volunteers and employees interacted with parkgoers on first aid, blood donation as well as membership and fundraising. See you at the next NParks Concert Series at Choa Chu Kang on 17 September!

42nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Photos by Agnotti Mohamed Kassim



The Singapore Red Cross (SRC) 42nd Annual General Meeting was held at Red Cross House on 27 June.

On behalf of the Council, Chairman Tee Tua Ba thanked outgoing members Axel Chan, Han Eng Juan, Edwin Seah and Zaidi Ariffin, for their contributions; welcomed Tan Kai Hoe, Roshini Prakash Nair and Allan Yeo Hwee Tiong (pictured above) onboard; and congratulated Dr Mark Hon (first photo; third from



left) on his appointment as the Vice Chairman of the SRC Council.

You can access the Annual Report for 2015 at redcross.sg (Publications > Annual Report).



THE ART OF EMCEEING

Adam Piperdy, whose silky baritone you may have heard on the Morning Show on HOT FM 91.3, helmed an emceeing workshop organised by Corporate Communications and Marketing department for volunteers and colleagues on 10 June. Sharing fun anecdotes of his personal experiences, Adam advised participants that more than just announcements, the Master of Ceremonies (MC) manages the time, engages the audience, ensures stage programmes run along as planned, thinks on the feet and injects positive energy into the event. He also shared the importance of writing a script and practising with a video recorder. Scene



▲ EQUIPPED TO SERVE

In a symbolic ceremony attended by 120 residents, Community-Led Action for REsilience (CLARE) volunteers handed over the First Aid Post equipment to Tampines Green Residents Committee (RC) on 29 May, thereby enhancing resilience in Tampines Green. Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Member of Parliament for Tampines GRC (Tampines West), Minister Masagos Zulkifli Bin Masagos Mohamad graced the event as the Guest-of-Honour. Resident volunteers attended the first session of Eldercare First Aid at the same RC on 9 July.



PRIMED FOR OVERSEAS DEPLOYMENT

Singapore Red Cross' International Services department organised a disaster preparedness and disaster mobilisation training for more than 70 volunteers at Red Cross House on 3 July. In particular, they learnt about operations and logistics, water and sanitation, basic health care and Restoring Family Links from experienced volunteer leaders.



A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

Imagine taking a walk down memory lane to see how blood donations were conducted back in the early days. As part of the celebrations for the 70th Anniversary of the National Blood Programme, we organised enriching Learning Journeys at each of the four bloodbanks in Singapore over three weekends in June.

Besides touring the bloodbank, participants learnt about the six-steps of blood donation and how blood donation has progressed over the years in Singapore.





AN EYE-OPENER -LEARNING JOURNEY TO JAPAN

Photos by Michelle Seah and Daphne Goh

It was a learning journey like no other! Red Cross Youth deployed a group of six teachers, three volunteers and one staff on an overseas learning journey to Japan from 13 June to 19 June. They visited Japan National HQ and Kanagawa Prefecture HQ, its Welfare Centre, Blood Centre, Disaster Management Warehouse, two elementary schools, two high schools, and even sat in for their disaster management lesson.

"The trip was an eye-opener for the team as they learnt about Japan Red Cross Society's blood programme, disaster management capabilities and its Junior Red Cross / Red Cross Youth's training programme and activities. We can learn from their training resources and the way lessons were conducted to impart the relevant skills and knowledge to our students," said Vincent Toh, Red Cross Youth Secretariat.

SETTING THE RECORD

It's a milestone! We are proud to announce that Combat Service Support Command (CSSCOMM) is the first bloodbank adopter!

SAF OETI, a unit of CSSCOM which organises all its blood donation drives, has been an avid supporter of the National Blood Programme since 2001. Through the blood donation drives, more than 400 units of blood are collected annually. At this year's World Blood Donor Day, CSSCOMM received the Bloodmobile Organiser (BMO) Merit Award.

"Combat Service has worked with Singapore Red Cross staff to organise and set up full-fledged mobile blood donation centres at Kranji Camp III every guarterly. While the valiant efforts have garnered hundreds of bags of blood since the beginning of this initiative, CSSCOM realised that more could be done to improve the number of blood donors. Because we lack the resources to hold larger scale or multi-location donations in our camps, we decided to do something no other organisation has done in Singapore adopt a Bloodbank," shared BG Lam Sheau Kai.



With the adoption of Bloodbank@ Westgate Tower on 12 July, CSSCOM's target is to collect at least 500 units of blood annually to attain the BMO Gold award. Annual drives will be converted to five-day centre bookings quarterly (total 4 per year). "This new approach to blood donation allows flexibility in the scheduling. The higher bed capacity of this bloodbank as well as increased time allocation for blood donation will allow us to better manage and plan our donation schedules efficiently to minimise waiting time for our donors. Blood donation is just one very direct way in which our servicemen can help those in need and realise their power to help their countrymen and women," explained BG Lam.

About 145 CSSCOM personnel turned up to donate blood at the event on 12 July.

DANCING COLOURS, BRIDGING LOVE

A Singapore Red Cross Exhibition @ Artistry

Love and hope are the common language of us all. For the residents with severe disabilities at the Red Cross Home for the Disabled (RCHD), they speak the language of love and hope through the arts.

Their art pieces, all 15 of them, were showcased and put up for auction at the "Dancing Colours, Bridging Love" exhibition at Artistry Cafe from 5 to 31 July. Nine art pieces were personally crafted by our residents while six were the collective labour of love of many residents, some staff of Google Singapore, AsiaWorks Training (Singapore) Pte Ltd and the Home. Holding hands, the artists demonstrate love and hope beyond their physical and mental disabilities.

The proceeds of the auction and S\$2 from every slice of the Red Velvet cake



sold were channelled to Singapore Red Cross' (SRC) local humanitarian causes.

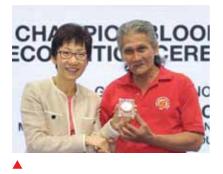




Champion blood donors join Minister Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and representatives from Singapore Red Cross and Health Sciences Authority in celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the National Blood Programme.

Blood donor Zavier Roland Massang, 69, wants to return the favour.

He started donating blood in his 20s. It is the love of giving that prompted Zavier to pay it forward, when he required blood transfusion in a surgery after encountering a traffic accident during the 1980s.



Zavier Roland Massang, the oldest Champion blood donor at World Blood Donor Day 2016, is a blood recipient turned blood donor.

"The incident was a wakeup call, as I realised how precious life is. Since then, I have pledged to seize all opportunities to play my part in giving back to the community by being a donor. I wish to continue this practice, as long as possible," said Zavier.

Zavier was among 1,450 blood donors honoured at World Blood Donor Day at the Sports Hub on 4 June. The event was organised by the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) and the Health Sciences Authority (HSA) to recognise blood donors' contributions.

As the oldest Champion blood donor at World Blood Donor Day 2016, Zavier will turn 70 this year, coinciding with the 70th Anniversary of the National Blood Programme.

Over the last seven decades, the National Blood Programme has

transformed from humble its beginnings with just one mobile bus and manual processes to its current form. The adoption of modern blood banking technology has made testing more comprehensive and efficient for safer blood; the setting up of four blood donation centres and mobile blood drives have made blood donation more convenient and accessible; the focus on improving the donor experience has led to shortened waiting and donation times - these factors all play a critical role in ensuring a safe and sufficient blood supply in Singapore.

Although both the blood donor pool and blood donations increased by more than 30 per cent since 2005, blood supplies remained in high demand at all times. A rapidly ageing population together with the increasing burden of chronic



"When we help a fellow human being by donating our blood, we become part of a community larger than ourselves. This sense of shared responsibility will make Singapore a more caring and cohesive society. As the demand for blood will continue to rise, I hope that all of us will step forward to give to those in need," Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, Minister Grace Fu in her speech during the event at Singapore Sports Hub.

diseases means more people will require complex surgical procedures, which in turn increases the demand for blood. Apart from the elderly, others who require blood transfusions include road traffic accident victims, cancer patients, and patients with blood disorders.

Blood needs are projected to increase from 3 per cent to 5 per cent every year. Over 220,000 units of blood will be needed annually by the year 2030.

Zavier recalled how he played his part, by calling on and bringing his then work colleagues to blood donation drives. "Sharing the experience is a good way in encouraging more people to donate blood. After all, there is a constant demand for blood supplies in Singapore," added Zavier.

In recent years, the Singapore Red Cross has been focusing on recruiting youth donors to create a new generation of donors in order to meet Singapore's future blood demands. Ongoing efforts such as school outreach, social initiatives and mobile apps and games



A champion donor receives an accolade from Member of Parliament for MacPherson and Special-Guest, Tin Pei Ling.

have already been put in place to educate and raise awareness of blood donation.

"Today, the youth forms 28 percent of the donor base. Our target is to bring this figure up to 35 percent. To get the young ones interested in this life-saving cause, we will roll out a series of outreach programmes and skits for school-going children, and a mobile game app called Donor-Dash that empowers players with blood donation know-how to foster the habit of blood donation from a young age," explained Chairman Tee.

These ongoing efforts aim to ensure that the spirit of giving is inculcated in the current and future generations of Singaporeans in order to sustain Singapore's blood donor pool, which in turn fulfils the national blood transfusion needs.

The carnival at the event also geared towards engaging the public and young-at-heart, with fun-filled photo booths and face-painting. Miniature sports were also a big draw for the crowds with games in golfing, telematches, basketball dunking and even human bowling in sync to the sports venue.

HUMANITY IN OUR HANDS

By Daniela Ong, Red Cross Youth Photos by Tan Jian Jie, Red Cross Youth



Ancient Greeks (Athenians) are known for their ability to strive for excellence in sports. One hundred and five trainees got a taste of what it was like to strive for excellence in humanity when they persevered through an intense fourdays and three-nights camp as part of the Unit Leaders Programme (ULP) held at MOE Labrador Campsite from 10 to 13 June.

Themed *"in your hands"*, ULP 2016 aimed to show the trainees that it is in their hands to make a difference to the self, unit, school, family and community. Most of all, the theme encapsulated the notion of 'humanity in our hands'.

Earlier this year, Acting Education Ministers Ng Chee Meng and Ong Ye Kung shared that they endeavoured to nurture "upright, confident, knowledgeable and skilful young adults,



equipped with a strong, lifelong curiosity and passion for learning". In line with this, the activities in ULP were targeted at promoting confidence, vigilance, excellence, resilience, and collaboration while highlighting the importance of keeping time, communicating well, being prepared, being adaptable and understanding one's purpose. ULP is a small, yet significant, stepping stone towards equipping our youth leaders with life skills that will stand them in good stead in the future.



Red Cross Youth is a platform for fostering camaraderie alongside others with the common goal of serving humanity. The conclusion of ULP 2016 marks the beginning of the cadets' journey as Unit Leaders in their respective school units. Having been empowered and equipped with relevant skills, they returned to their units to lead and to serve with compassion, competence, and foresight. The outcome of it all is *in their hands*.

Interesting!

Platoons were named Sympónia, Armódios, Stóchastro, for compassion, competence, foresight respectively in Greek, key attributes that unit leaders should have.

COMPASSION THROUGH PROJECT R.I.C.E+

Photos by Robert Luk, Volunteer and Joyce Tan, Corporate Communications and Marketing

Singapore Red Cross Youth and its Project R.I.C.E.+ partners, Grab Singapore and Sheng Siong Supermarket, ran an island-wide distribution of the 15,520 hampers comprising food, beverages and household essentials, to disadvantaged families on 16 July.

Prior to the distribution of hampers to beneficiaries, close to 200 youth volunteers thronged 26 Sheng Siong supermarkets from 28 May and 5 June to raise awareness of the needs faced by economically-challenged families, and to rally donations for customised hampers for specific needs. Project R.I.C.E.+ is a studentled collection drive that is in its seventh year running.

Thirty-five Community-Led Action for REsilience (C.L.A.R.E.) volunteers from Singapore Red Cross and members of Tampines West Grassroots also helped with the packing and distribution. Grab, Southeast Asia's leading ride-hailing platform and the official transport partner for Project R.I.C.E+, deployed 12 GrabCar drivers to enable the delivery of 400 hampers from point-to-point.



Sahari Ani, Director of Red Cross Youth, said, "We are thrilled by the positive response from the donor community, evident from the number of hampers rallied over the past months. We are also very happy to have onboard great partners such as Grab Singapore and Sheng Siong Supermarket, in our service to the vulnerable. I am proud of our Red Cross Youth for spearheading this meaningful initiative, which I am sure will bring warmth to the beneficiaries whom we will visit today."

"We care about giving back to the society and so do our drivers. Grab is actively creating social impact in our communities and Project R.I.C.E+ is a meaningful initiative to give back to needy Singaporean families," said Kok Yiling, Regional Safety Lead, Grab.



Mdm Zaiton, the sole breadwinner of her family and caregiver of her grandchildren and bedridden husband, is grateful for the hamper.

"You have really brightened up Hari Raya for our family! Thank you for carrying the heavy bags of rice, oil & food to our doorstep. At 66, it is tough for me to lift heavy things, and I have to be at home all the time to care for my husband & grandchildren. It is indeed a blessing to receive these gifts," Mdm Zaiton, the sole breadwinner of her family; and caregiver of her grandchildren and her bedridden husband.



From left, Chen Jiahui, Red Cross Youth & Project R.I.C.E+ Director, Terri Cheng, Senior Constituency Manager of Tampines West CC, Sahari Ani, Director of Red Cross Youth, and Kok Yiling, Regional Safety Lead, Grab Singapore flag off the delivery of hampers to needy families in the finale of the youth initiative, Project R.I.C.E+.

A REDEFINING EXPERIENCE

18 Red Cross Youth Cadets, Chapter and Club Members and Teacher-Officers served in an Overseas Humanitarian Programme in Roxas City, the Philippines.





For many busy working professionals, donating money may seem easier than making time to volunteer.

Which is why, Chloe Chan, 30, a Red Cross Youth (RCY) Club Member, challenged herself to fulfill one of the items in her bucket list - to contribute physically towards a good cause. When the opportunity came to join the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) on an Overseas Humanitarian Programme (OHP) in the Philippines, she seized it immediately as it was a dream come true for her. "I was particularly excited about this opportunity as it married two of my strongest beliefs in this world; education and children, in an overseas environment," shared Chloe.

Held in Roxas City, the Philippines from 13 to 24 June, the OHP was aimed at refurbishing the school grounds of Ivisan Elementary School and Libas Elementary School and educating their students (from Grade 4 to 6) on personal hygiene, basic first aid, water conservation and global warming. Eighteen volunteers were involved in this OHP.

The team spent four days at lvisan Elementary School, where they repainted their main gate and spruced up their school grounds with a vibrant and inspirational mural. Some of them did gardening with a local NGO to harvest vegetables for sale. The proceeds will support the disadvantaged families in the school.

"It was the first time some of us got our hands dirty with soil as we weeded,



prepared garden beds, planted seeds and harvested vegetables!" quipped Chloe.

The team spent another four days at Libas Elementary School, where they painted their clinic or 'sick bay' and part of the main compound.

"Some of us crafted a colourful mural whilst the others worked alongside local workers to construct and paint fences as safety structures for the students, whose classrooms were located at the top of a hill," she recounted.

In addition, the team also made handicrafts such as bookmarks and pin-wheels and played local games such as 'Ants', 'Open the Basket' and the new hit 'Duck Song', "Tatlong Bibe" with the students.

Their journey with each school concluded with 'a friendship day' where the team played mass games with the students and distributed hygiene packs contributed by SRC.

"One of the highlights of the trip was Friendship Night, where we showcased our experience in Roxas City, and performed for guests from the Red Cross Capiz Chapter and faculty staff from the schools we worked with," explained Chloe.

AN ENRICHING AND INSIGHTFUL TRIP

More than anything, the OHP was an enriching learning journey for the team members.

"At the end of every night, we would have reflection sessions on what went well, how the events of the day made us feel, and what we could do differently," said Chloe.

The most memorable experience was when the students gathered around the team for photos and autographs.

"It made the sweat and body aches worthwhile," shared Choo Shi Jin, 27, a RCY Club Member.





"A team member shared that some of the students aspired to be doctors, nurses or teachers. He encouraged the students to strive for their goals and not to give up. This pained me as I realised it may take a miracle for these students to achieve their dreams, given their circumstances," Chloe shared.

They learnt about teamwork as they worked together with 17 other team members from diverse backgrounds.

Chloe affirmed, "Our leaders reiterated that the success of the trip is not just based on individual efforts but by working respectfully together as a team. I learnt that leadership and teamwork was not just about modelling the right behaviour but also explicitly coaching and guiding others in your team."

For Noridayu Binte Samsuri, 27, a RCY - Chapter member, the OHP experience taught her to be "courageous to admit my mistakes and wise enough to correct them," revealed Noridayu.

Beyond that, the OHP redefined what happiness or contentment meant for the volunteers.

"When we witnessed their slum-like living conditions, I was amazed by how happy the children were with so little. Some barely had proper shoes and clothes. The school didn't have a play area. Yet, they made the most out of the stairs, steps, slopes and uneven grounds to play amongst themselves. This experience redefined the happiness that I seek in life. It's not about what I possess materialistically, but rather, it's about making the most of what I currently have, and putting it to good use," Chloe said.

Though Chloe was never one to put aside time to reflect about activities or events daily, she found herself constantly thinking about what happened in the day, and what could have been done differently in a similar situation.

Overall, the OHP bonded people together.

"It is incredible to know that I was with dedicated individuals who were selfless, and were ready to give in every way possible," said Shi Jin.

"None of us would imagine that 18 strangers can share so much laughter, personal facets and insights about our lives. It undoubtedly bonded us as a family," summed up Chloe.

AN ENCHANTING LINKAMANIA

Making learning fun for Junior Red Crossers

By Jane Ong, Red Cross Youth Photos by Tan Xing Yuan, Red Cross Youth



A children's song and dance opened the legendary hidden wardrobe where they could escape from a land of pirates and talking animals. Yet, their plans were thwarted by scheming villains. The only way out was to collect magic bits (clover stickers) from 12 enchanted kingdoms so as to retrieve the Fairy Godmother's magic, defeat the villains and return home.

120 Links, Red Cross Youth members in primary schools, experienced a fairy-tale themed weekend camp at Evergreen Secondary School on 28 and 29 May.

On 28 May, our fellow volunteer instructors put up a skit which plunged the Links into the fictional world of LinkaLand. After the skit, they were separated in groups named after famous Disney characters such as Winnie the Pooh, Rex, Simba and Captain Pete. They had a funfilled bonding session through the icebreakers to get to know their fellow mentors and groupmates. Following that, our enthusiastic Links displayed their dancing skills at a mass dance to the song "The Bare Necessities / I Wanna Be Like You" by The Overtones.

The groups were tasked to complete 12 challenges around the school. They ran against time to collect as many magic bits as they could by applying their Red Cross knowledge and avoiding the challenges posed by the 'Jurassic Forest'. This was to prepare them for the ultimate showdown with the Evil Olaf on Linka Night.

As the sun set, all groups made their way to an "abandoned castle". Linka Night officially started with the arrival of our Guest-of-Honour, Sahari Ani, Director of Red Cross Youth. Donning a Peter Pan costume, Sahari opened Linka Night with an inspiring and motivating speech. With that, Act 3 comprising two games "Don't Forget the Lyrics" and "Don't Forget to Remember" soon commenced. It was truly a heartwarming sight to see everyone belting out popular songs such as "Let It Go" and "Do You Wanna Build A Snowman" in unity.

Linka Night then ended with another round of mass dance and a special dance performance choreographed by our volunteer instructors. Soon, the Links drifted off to their dreamland.

On 29 May 2016, Links performed 12 different skits as part of the Values-In-Action activity. These skits enabled the Links to showcase the values they learnt and translate their imagination into real-world, daily situations through Values-In-Action. The Guest-of-Honour, Angeline Yong, Head of Red Cross Youth judged the skits. Woody from the Toy Story division emerged the champion as they clearly portrayed their given topic, "Gratitude" in their performance.

The closing ceremony of Linkamania 2016 ended off with a Mass Dance and group photo before we parted ways.

It is hoped that the Links will benefit from the newfound friendships, their newly acquired knowledge of the different Red Cross Youth subjects and the important values learnt by being a caring friend, a loving family member and a better individual in the society. Until then, see you in Linkamania 2017!



Highlights

RED CROSS YOUTH CLUB - SINGAPORE'S FIRST INCLUSIVE CLUB FOR YOUTH

Photo by Agnotti Mohamed Kassim, Corporate Communications and Marketing



Newly-minted Red Cross Youth Club members perform a skit on first aid at Delta Senior School.

In a move that marks Singapore Red Cross' (SRC) foray into developing youth with special needs to be humanitarian leaders of the future, Minister for Health and Grassroots Advisor to Choa Chu Kang GRO, Mr Gan Kim Yong launched SRC's Red Cross Youth Club (RCY Club) in the Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) Delta Senior School on 8 July. Over 300 people gathered to witness a symbolic ceremony marking the enrolment of 15 pioneer youth members aged 17 to 19 to the RCY Club.

"I am heartened by the collaboration amongst Singapore Red Cross, Association of Persons with Special Needs (APSN) and Special Olympics Asia Pacific Ltd to launch Singapore's first inclusive club for youth with and without intellectual disabilities at Delta Senior School. This initiative is an epitome of social inclusiveness and cohesiveness," said Guest-of-Honour and former Red Cross Youth Cadet, Minister Gan Kim Yong, who witnessed the badge pinning and presentation of membership cards.

"We are creating opportunities for youth with and without intellectual disabilities to work and grow together in humanitarian service, as volunteers and leaders," shared SRC Secretary General Benjamin William in his speech.

Going forward, SRC and APSN Delta Senior School will equip RCY Club Members with First Aid and First Responder skills, by adapting the Basic First Aid curriculum for students with intellectual disabilities.

"The collaboration will allow our students with Mild Intellectual Disability to learn essential First Aid and First Responder skills which they can apply in their daily lives and prepare for emergencies," shared APSN Delta Senior School Principal, Aslinah Bte Ahmad.

In the next six months, Red Cross Youth @ Delta Senior School will work alongside other Red Cross Youth members from Singapore and beyond, to plan and organise three unified activities - centred on recreation/ sports and community service/ outreach - for youth with and without intellectual disabilities in Singapore, as part of its community outreach programme. These unified activities are conceptualised and funded by Special Olympics Asia Pacific through a S\$10,000 grant, to bring together people with and without intellectual disabilities for shared experiences.

"We believe in building a truly inclusive society through mindful activities and shared experiences between people with and without intellectual disabilities to foster greater understanding and acceptance," said Angelina Ong, Board member, Special Olympics Asia Pacific.

The establishment of the RCY Club in Delta School is another significant step towards building a truly inclusive Red Cross Youth Movement in Singapore.

"I feel happy and excited to be in Red Cross Youth Club. I learnt how to bandage a casualty. If people are injured, I will be in a position to help them stop their bleeding with a first aid kit. I will learn CPR and many skills from the RCY Club. I am looking forward to learning these skills so I can use my first aid skills to help others," said Sharlene Ng, 18, a newly-minted member of Red Cross Youth Club @ Delta Senior School. Highlights

REBUILDING RIKUZENTAKATA CITY

By Sondra Foo, Corporate Communications and Marketing



The Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami of 2011 unleashed widespread devastation in the Tōhoku region, leaving the city of Rikuzentakata as one of the most devastated cities in Japan.

After the disaster, Rikuzentakata Mayor, Futoshi Toba spearheaded the city's recovery through the implementation of an eight-year reconstruction plan.

As part of the Singapore Red Cross Humanitarian Lecture Series to promote public interest and understanding in humanitarian issues both locally and abroad, Rikuzentakata Mayor Futoshi Toba brought 60 participants on a journey of shared experiences, where the strength of the human spirit triumphs over adversity, true to the Japanese proverb "Nanakorobi yaoki" - "fall seven times but get up eight times".

Held at the International Involvement Hub on 13 July, the public lecture, "Lessons from Disaster - The Resilience of Rikuzentakata" focused on Mayor Toba's vision of rebuilding the Japanese city into a liveable, resilient and inclusive society. This was the fourth public lecture organised by Singapore Red Cross Academy.

The lecture started off with a documentary screening on Rikuzentakata jointly produced by the Singapore Red Cross and students and lecturers of Republic Polytechnic's School of Management and Communication. This was followed by an inspiring speech by Singapore Red Cross Secretary General / CEO Benjamin William.

Speaking through an interpreter, Mayor Toba highlighted the scale of devastation by the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami back in 2011. The disaster claimed the lives of more than 1,500 people. Over 250 people are still missing. Homes, buildings, a pristine beach, pine tree forest were flattened to the ground. but one miracle pine tree survived. It was a symbol of hope and strength to the People of Rikuzentakata.

Though Mayor Toba lost his wife in the disaster, he strives to be a good Mayor to the citizens of Rikuzentakata.

He expressed gratitude to the People of Singapore and the Singapore Red Cross for their aid to the survivors of the disaster. It enabled Rikuzentakata to build the Rikuzentakata Multi-Purpose Community Hall for the people to come together for various events, thereby uplifting their spirits. In the spirit of gratitude and friendship, they named a hall the "Singapore Hall" - which is used for concerts and activities.

Mayor Toba shared his efforts to address the needs of communities for better integration so that "people with special needs will feel at home". He provided jobs for people with special needs to pack items to earn livelihoods. To "enhance community resilience, people are trained in disaster preparedness knowledge" and they built a sea wall of a greater height.

In the question and answer session moderated by Secretary General/CEO Benjamin, Mayor Toba addressed wide-ranging questions from enticing young people to return to the city, rebuilding the economy through the promotion of Japanese products to Singapore, to personal questions on whether he would still fulfill his duty as a Mayor or as a husband and father if he could turn back the clock.

Watch the video of Rikuzentakata City on YouTube "The Strength of the Human Spirit - Episode 4 - Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture".

Highlights

BRINGING INNOVATIVE WATER SOLUTIONS TO DISASTER SURVIVORS

Photo by WateROAM



Singapore Red Cross (SRC) partnered Singapore-based WateROAM to provide clean water in SRC's disaster relief efforts in Nepal and Vanuatu.

WateROAM's innovation, ROAMfilter Lite, is a 400g palm-sized nondescript plastic bag with portable filtration systems which claims to remove bacteria and pathogens without electricity. The device is able to filter six to 10 litres of dirty water in just an hour and is targeted at households.

"Singapore Red Cross places a huge emphasis on disaster response and relief activities for communities that are stricken by catastrophe. Humanitarian innovative solutions in areas like medical and health, water and sanitation etc will effectively benefit the disadvantaged," Charis Chan, Head, International Services, Singapore Red Cross. "WateROAM is a water company started by young and inspirational individuals aspiring to bring clean water to the people in need. Through the collaboration, we have distributed "WateROAM's 500 water bags in Nepal that will benefit 3,000 people. In Vanuatu, we distributed 50 water bag filters to local partners NGO Adventist Development and Relief Agency and delivered two water filtration systems in Vanuatu's Isabel village on Tanna Island and Eton village on Efate Island. We will continue to seek opportunities in different areas in the near future," added Charis.

The innovation originated as an entry by David Pong, 27, Vincent Loka, 23, and Lim Chong Tee, 25, in an entrepreneurial competition at the National University of Singapore (NUS) in 2014. Two years on, the innovation became a budding social enterprise that has benefitted some 15,000 people in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines and Vanuatu.

"It started out as a design project where we build a system to filter the water. With the prize money, we thought of building a prototype and we got this prototype tested in villagers in Cambodia and Myanmar. Most people were then drinking water from contaminated wells or the Mekong river. They could also purchase water from shops but those were very costly. With our water-filter system, they could get clean water at an affordable cost. We placed this system at a mosque and the people were closer knit and were very happy," explained Chong Tee, the Chief Marketing Officer.

"As we obtained very good feedback from people using the system, we decided that it was a sustainable cause. We decided to set up a social enterprise with the help of grants, to benefit more people," said Chong Tee.

Extracted and adapted from "This company wants to provide clean water, using a plastic bag" by Rohini Nambiar of CNBC.

Feature

* 🛠 FACES OF RESILIENCE



Photos and text by Republic Polytechnic's Diploma in Mass Communication students Azmi Athni, Kane Raynard Goh, Rachel Ng and Marcus Tan Junhao in a special collaboration with Singapore Red Cross (SRC) for "The Strength of the Human Spirit" - an exhibition to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami.





The youthful vigor and laughter of the children bring hope the community.



Mr Harako Choich, 67, laughs as he enjoys a cup of tea with his fellow residents and visitors from Republic Polytechnic at Taro Support Centre. The jovial dance instructor has been teaching at the gym for four years, and is the only man among the sea of women dancers in class.



Republic Polytechnic student photojournalist Azmi Athni (second from left) dances with residents at a gymnasium in Taro Support Centre. The elderly residents there gather weekly to dance and keep fit, and foster stronger bonds and relationships.



You can bring these stories home.

The limited-edition photobook is on sale at Red Cross House for S\$25 a book or S\$40 for two. Proceeds will sustain the local humanitarian services of the Singapore Red Cross. You can also watch the documentary on YouTube at this redcrosssg channel.





A group of senior citizens spend their Sunday afternoon watching the Shichigahama Fire Brigade conduct their annual fire drill and awards ceremony. The fire brigade consists of volunteers from all walks of life who were actively involved in disaster relief operations after the 2011 quake and tsunami.



After having lived in temporary housing for almost four years, 76-year-old Yoshiko Suzuki was one of the earliest to move into Takadai Juutaku Danchi - a brand new permanent housing complex located in her hometown of Shichigahama.

Residing there with her son, Ms Suzuki felt very relieved to move into a more liveable and comfortable place.





Senior residents enjoy a tete-a-tete over a cup of tea at the Taro Support Centre, a community area that serves as a common place for its residents in the surrounding temporary housing to bond with one another.





Seventy-one-year-old Ara Setsuko (front) takes part in Taikyokuken, or better known as taiji, classes twice a week at the Isobe Community Centre.

There are 7 of vs, aged 5 to 14. We have not seen our parents in a long time. Grandma cares for vs while Grandpa works. While other kids have tasty meals, we eat only instant noodles almost everyday. One day, we finally had a taste of fresh foods like rice, meat, vegetables and fruits. Now, we look forward to Red Cross house visits everyday! The impact your gift makes may be more than you will ever know.

We know, because they do.



Today she smiles, because you cared.



When was the last time you made a difference?

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NRIC No./FIN No./UEN No.:)		Occupation: _	TERS, please underline your surname

I wish to ...

🗌 be a Member of the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) — send me the sign up form & register me for voluntary service.

allow my personal data to be collected and used for future correspondence through voice call, SMS text and/or email by SRC for the purpose of fundraising. (For withdrawal of consent, access and correction of your personal data or further inquiries, please contact the Fundraising department at 6664 0500 or fundraising@redcross.sq)

For more information, please visit www.redcross.sg or connect with us at facebook.com/sgredcross.

In a gentle way, you can shake the world.

Feature

THE BOND THAT BINDS

By Sondra Foo, Corporate Communications and Marketing



Vedina Moneda, 33, a Filipino nursing aide who has been working at Red Cross Home for the Disabled (RCHD) for 11 years, treasures every interaction she has with Muhammad Noor B. Abdul Rashid, 17, a resident of the Home.

"Noor is a very happy, kind and loveable boy despite his disabilities. Like all the residents of the Home, he needs love and care. He needs someone to look after him; feed him, groom him, play with him and talk to him. He loves all the nurses. I call him my darling brother and he calls me "my darling sister"," affirmed Vedina.

They share a special bond because of their passion for singing. "I enjoy speaking with him as I can see how happy he is when when he jokes with me. We both love singing. When I sang, he would tease me. He would laugh out loud and croon to Celine Dion's songs such as "My heart will go on" and "Power of the dream". He also enjoys Malay songs," Vedina shared.

Besides Noor's love for singing, his interest in watching wrestling shows and playing ball games do not escape Vedina's keen eye. "He would laugh so loudly while watching wrestling that sometimes he doesn't realise that we are there - he gets so engrossed in the show. When he plays ball games, he will keep smiling each time he throws the ball."

When asked about Noor's favourite food, Vedina promptly responded, "Curry chicken! He will eat happily and he finishes his meal very quickly." Noor attends Rainbow Centre - Margaret Drive School at the encouragement of RCHD given his ability to interact and communicate. "He tells me about his day in school, which he attends from 11.30am to 5,30pm," said Vedina fondly.

Vedina connects with the residents at the Home on a personal level, treating them like family. By understanding the residents' needs, preferences, interests, favourite food, mannerisms, she forges a strong bond with her clients.

She explained, "We are fortunate to be healthy. I feel it's my responsibility to love, care and look after them. I feel attached to the residents as they treat me like I am part of their family. The residents are like my family too." Wellness

FIRST AID FOR AND BY CHILDREN

Injury is a significant cause of death and morbidity among children from the age of one. Each year, approximately 950,000 children aged less than 18 years die as a result of an injury or violence worldwide. Nearly 90 percent of these – about 830,000 – are due to unintentional injuries. Most of these unintentional injuries are the result of road traffic crashes, drowning¹, burns, falls and poisoning, with the highest rates occurring in low income and middle income countries². These figures are staggering and they underscore the importance of "First aid for and by children". What then, can be done to protect the children?

The Singapore Red Cross Academy conducts first aid courses for parents and caregivers, to equip them with skills to provide first aid for children in times of emergencies, before medical aid arrives.



You can be an ambassador to spread word amongst your peers on the importance of learning first aid. Be in a position to protect yourselves and your loved ones in times of emergencies. You can be someone's hero if you only take the first step to learn first aid today. **Sign up for these courses at redcross.sg.**

PARENTS / CAREGIVERS

 Parents or caregivers can take up a Child First Aid Course, accredited by the National First Aid Council (NFAC), which focuses on infant and child care

(S\$160 for a three-day course)

CHILDREN / YOUTH

- Children aged four to seven can learn Young First Aid to identify danger and seek safety (S\$50 for a two-hour session).
- Children aged between eight to 11 can learn Junior First Aid to learn useful first aid skills like bandaging in interactive activities and games (S\$60 for a three-hour session).
- Red Cross Youth (RCY) Links in Primary schools, RCY Cadets in secondary schools, RCY Chapter Members and RCY Club members learn first aid as part of their curriculum.

TEACHER / EDUCATORS

- Teachers can request for the delivery of "Bandage Brothers", an interactive first aid skit for school-going children to learn about the importance of a first aid kit.
- The skit, a collaboration by Singapore Red Cross and 3M Nexcare[™], debunks myths of and dispenses first aid tips common injuries, advice on home safety through humour and engaging activities.
- Children will also get an activity book to start on their "Amazing First Aid Discovery".

- ¹ According to the Global report on drowning by the World Health Organisation, drowning is among the 10 leading causes of death of children and young people in every region of the world, with children aged under five years disproportionately at risk.
- ² This entire paragraph was extracted from a Bulletin "Injury prevention and the attainment of child and adolescent health" by the World Health Organisation.

Wellness

FIRST AID TIPS FOR THE YOUNG

By Siti Humaira Binte Sumri, Singapore Red Cross Academy Illustrations extracted from "My Amazing First Aid Discovery!", 3M Nexcare™ and Singapore Red Cross

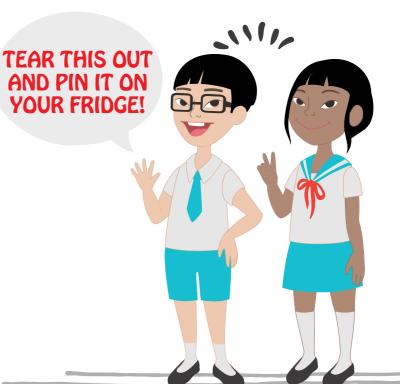


CHOKING & POISONING

- 1) Call 995
- 2) Get help from an adult
- Stay with the person until help arrives

How to prevent choking:

Do not talk while eating; Do not swallow large pieces of food or objects like erasers, paper clips etc; Eat or drink slowly, do not rush through your meal





WOUNDS

You can get wounds and cuts from falls, bites, stabs from sharp objects. It is important to clean the wounds properly or it might lead to an infection.

- 1) Gently wash the wound with water
- 2) Apply pressure to stop the bleeding
- 3) Bandage or cover the cut with a plaster to prevent infection



BURNS

Burns are common injuries that often occur at home. Some ways to prevent yourself from getting burns is by not touching any hot pots and pans on stove or going near fire.

- 1) Cool the burn under cold running water for at least ten minutes
- 2) Get an adult to cover the burn with a clean plastic bag
- 3) For severe burns, get an adult to call 995



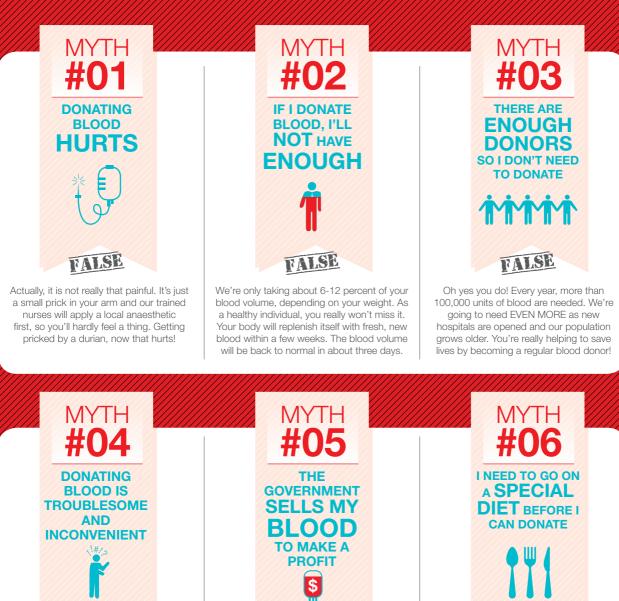
NOSEBLEED

- 1) Get your friend to sit up and lean forward slightly
- 2) Make sure they breathe through their mouth
- 3) Ask you friend to pinch the soft part of the nose for about ten minutes.
- 4) If the bleeding continues for more than 30 minutes, get an adult's help

Wellness

BLOOD DONATION MYTHS

In this issue, we dispel some blood donation myths.



Actually, donating blood couldn't be easier now that there are four blood banks in Singapore, all with different operating hours. On top of that, we organise regular mobile blood-drives in the community, so it's really not diffcult for you to save lives! You can go to a step further - make an appointment with us (www.hsa.gov.sg/donorcare) and save on your waiting time!

FALSE

Nope, not even close! The blood itself is NOT sold and will never be. The patient only needs to pay a processing fee, which is subsidised for citizens and permanent residents. All

FALSE

donated blood has to be processed and screened for safety and compatibility before it can be used by patients. The processing fee covers all these costs! You don't need to go on a special diet. You just need to have a balanced diet. That said, it'll help if your diet is rich in iron. Foods like red meat, poultry, fish, beans, dark green vegetables, rod dates, dried logans, grains and nuts will help to ensure your haemoglobin level meets the requisite level for you to donate blood.

FALSE

Fresh

HERALDING A NEW BEGINNING

New Building for Singapore Red Cross



Slated to be opened in 2019 in conjunction with Singapore Red Cross' 70th anniversary, the 6,000 square metre new building will enable an expansion of services and enhance our outreach to the community.

With the joyful news of lease extension on our premises at Penang Lane, we will build a new Annex adjacent to Red Cross House, which is gazetted by the Urban Redevelopment Authority as a conserved building.

In partnership with the Singapore Institute of Architects, we held a competition for the redevelopment of Red Cross House. Celebrating Singapore Red Cross' (SRC) rich historical legacy while injecting a fresh new look, ONG&ONG Pte Ltd's submission beat 48 other entries to win the competition.

Spotting a classically iconic facade, Red Cross House will be transformed into a heritage centre, a thrift store and classrooms for the Singapore Red Cross Academy. A new 10-storey office tower will be built, connecting Red Cross House and the new tower with an elevated event plaza, creating a physical transition via a detached office lift core that connects with the event space.

"Beyond bridging the internal spaces of both the original and new SRC structures, the plaza not only provides the means and space for any number of SRC initiatives and engagements, but also allows the institute to easily and efficiently accommodate an increased number of people and volunteers," explained the ONG&ONG design team.

Inspired by the altruism of volunteers and the people behind the Singapore Red Cross, ONG&ONG's design embraces a comprehensively contemporary approach to health – with all amenities and facilities, even lighting and air quality, all designed with the end-users in mind.



At the award ceremony held on 11 July, Group COO Ashvinkumar Kantilal, Associate Director Robert Brodeth, together with Associates Lee Cheow Yeh and Tomas Jaramillo Valencia, accepted the Award on behalf of ONG&ONG Pte Ltd. Chat

HEART FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE



The British Theatre Playhouse (BTP) is more than a professional theatre production company. It is an organisation with the heart for the less fortunate. After a successful Charity Gala Dinner and The Vortex play on 29 April, BTP handed S\$26,000 to Singapore Red Cross' local humanitarian services and another S\$26,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross for their Syrian refugee crisis relief efforts. Red Cross News finds out more from Cecilia Leong-Faulkner, Managing Director of BTP.

What is BTP's philosophy on Corporate Social Responsibility?

British Theatre Playhouse The believes in the philosophy of going beyond our call of duty by helping those in needs and the less fortunate through our established "Art for Charity" programme in which we dedicate one performance and evening to raise funds for a chosen charity. We believe we can share our work more that way and engage the community to support and enjoy as well. Our success is possible because we can attract like-minded sponsors and supporters to walk this journey with us. The key lies in teamwork and leadership.

Why did BTP decide to donate to Singapore Red Cross and ICRC's Syrian Refugee Crisis relief efforts?

First of all, we are inspired by SRC and ICRC in their work for humanity. Secondly, there is certainly a grave concern in Syria for the past few years, and it seems the situation has not improved. More than 250,000 Syrians have lost their lives, and people are displaced every day, running away from conflict zones. As humans, we simply can't turn a blind eye and think that's not our problem. Also, the humanity situation in Syria and the Middle East has a global impact on international security. So, we should pay some attention.

How would you encourage others to do the same for the vulnerable in Singapore and abroad?

By creating awareness and setting an example, we hope to inspire and show that we can all play a role in humanity work and make a difference. We care and are sincere about it.

REACHING OUT TO OUR BENEFICIARIES



"For 67 years, Singapore Red Cross (SRC) has reached out and empowered the lives of countless people locally and regionally. EDMI Limited recognises SRC's reputation and is proud to work alongside SRC as a partner in its humanitarian mission. We look forward to a long and morally rewarding relationship with Red Cross well into the future and recommend such a partnership to our own industry partners and peers," said the spokesperson of leading smart energy solutions provider, EDMI Limited. Chat

GOOGLE SERVES THE DISABLED



On 16 June, 15 staff from Google visited the Red Cross Home for the Disabled (RCHD) and spent some time with our residents.

The highlight of the visit was for our residents to experience virtual reality with a simple cardboard viewer, Google Cardboard. Our residents were inspired and showed their artistic flair through two canvas paintings with Googlers and staff at RCHD joining in the fun. The art pieces were on display at Artistry Cafe (page 7).

A spokesperson from Google Singapore said: "Giving is a core part of our culture at Google. For GoogleServe, we partner with non-profits and NGOs that are focused on community services that are identified by our employees. GoogleServe projects aim to meet the needs of local communities and to tap



into the unique skills and talents of Googlers to address those needs. This project is a part of our commitment to the local community."

It was a truly remarkable and unique experience for our residents, particularly as they rarely step out of RCHD. Needless to say, it was a very fulfilling experience for both Googlers and RCHD residents. The radiant smiles of our residents speak volumes about their joy of coming together for a shared experience.

"It was a privilege to be able to give back and contribute to the local community as part of our GoogleServe initiative. Everyone involved was inspired by the experience and by the creative sparkle of the residents," added the spokesperson from Google Singapore.



In 2015, EDMI gifted \$\$3,530 in book vouchers and brought festive cheer to our beneficiaries. Recently, EDMI gifted another \$\$1,070 in gift vouchers to our FoodAid beneficiaries and residents of the Red Cross Home for the Disabled.



We thank EDMI Limited for bringing smiles to our beneficiaries.

JOIN US

Charity Golf 🗸

Join us and swing the club for a good cause at the Red Cross Charity Golf 2016 at Orchid Country Club to raise funds for our local humanitarian services! To participate as a golfer, email fundraising@redcross.sg Date: 4 October (Tuesday) Time: Afternoon tee-off Venue: Orchid Country Club

Deepavali Blood Drive 🖠

Make your Deepavali special by giving the gift of blood this year! Date: 22 November 2016 (Tuesday) Venue: All bloodbanks islandwide

Charity Concert "A Nyonya Journey" 🏌

Be inspired by a heartwarming performance led by Ms Terene Seow, Chairperson of the Organising Committee.

Date: 5 November (Saturday)

Time: Evening

Venue: Singapore Conference Hall, 7 Shenton Way, Singapore 068810

Email fundraising@redcross.sg to find out more.

ChariTrees @ Marina Bay 2016 🝐

Sponsor a ChariTree at S\$12,000. Proceeds will go to the local humanitarian services of the Singapore Red Cross. Date: 18 November to 27 December Venue: Marina Bay Sands Waterfront Promenade

Christmas Celebration at Blood Collection Centres

The joy is in giving! Give the gift of life this Christmas and make your Christmas extra meaningful! Date: 11 Dec (Saturday) 9am to 4.30am Bloodbank@HSA 11 Dec (Saturday) Date: 10am to 5pm Bloodbank@Westgate Tower Date: 18 Dec (Saturday) 10am to 5pm Bloodbank@Dhoby Ghaut 18 Dec (Saturday) Date: 10am to 5pm Bloodbank@Woodlands Make an appointment to donate blood at redcross.sg



Shop Now at Trezo

Shop@RedCross is now on Trezo mobile app. Proceeds will be channelled to Singapore Red Cross' local humanitarian services.



Impact Report 2015

Our annual report is now available for downloading at redcross.sg/ publications/annual-reports.html.

Need help or know of someone who does? Get in touch at the locations below or call 6664 0500.

Red Cross Home for the Disabled

8 Lengkok Bahru, Family Link @ Lengkok Bahru, #04-01 Singapore 159052 **Shop@RedCross Thrift Shops** Shop@Red Cross Red Cross Training Campsite, 62 Jalan Khairuddin,

Singapore 457524 (Opens every Friday, 10.30am to 3.30pm)

Shop@Red Cross Red Cross House 15 Penang Lane, Singapore 238486 (Opens every Wednesday, 11am to 4.00pm)

BLOOD COLLECTION CENTRES

Bloodbank@HSA Health Sciences Authority, 11 Outram Road, Singapore 169078 Bloodbank@Dhoby Ghaut Dhoby Xchange, 11 Orchard Road, #B1-05 to 09, Singapore 238826

Bloodbank@Woodlands Woodlands Civic Centre 900 South Woodlands Drive, #05-07, Singapore 730900

Bloodbank@Westgate Tower, Westgate 1 Gateway Drive, #10-01 to 05, Singapore 608531

SINGAPORE RED CROSS ACADEMY@ RED CROSS HOUSE 15 Penang Lane, Level 3 Singapore 238486

SINGAPORE RED CROSS ACADEMY @ ATRIUM International Involvement Hub (I2Hub) 60A Orchard Road, Level 4M Tower 1, #04-02 Singapore 238890



RED CROSS HOUSE

15 Penang Lane, Singapore 238486 Tel: 6664 0500

Email: enquiry@redcross.sg www.redcross.sg







