

LIONS COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION (S)

ANNUAL REPORT

FY2019 - 2020

BY

PDG GILBERT P C TAN

Chairman

JULY 2020



LIONS
COMMUNITY SERVICE
FOUNDATION
SINGAPORE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



FY 2019 -2020

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CHIM HOU YAN

SHIVA BANERJEE

**IN LIONSIM,
WE SERVE AS ONE
PASSIONATE TEAM**

LCSF UPDATES



Approval of Constitution Amendments

Commissioner of Charities has approved LCSF Constitution amendments on October 3, 2019 where the amended clause clarifies that the corporate trustee is appointed purely for the purpose of holding the immovable property in a bare trust. The amendment was approved by the members of the Foundation at LCSF AGM on 29 June 2019. With the purchase of an immovable property at North Bridge Road with more than 60-year lease, it is necessary to ensure the security and safety of the title documents by entrusting them to a corporate trustee that would survive the individual trustees, office holders and staff of the Foundation.

Approved Constitution amendments were further approved by Registry of Societies on 26 March 2020.

Renewal of Institutions of Public Character (IPC) Status LCSF's IPC renewal

LCSF's IPC renewal application was submitted and accepted by Commission of Charities in 2019 and our IPC status has been renewed for another 2 years from 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2021 with the ability to continue issuance of tax-deductible receipts for qualifying donations to donors.

308-A1 District Secretariat Office District Secretariat

District Secretariat office has moved to LCSF Office at 465 North Bridge Road effective 1 July 2020 bringing a closer working ties between LCSF and District offices, thus maximizing the usage of the office premise bought in 2018.

CHARITABLE GIVING / GRANT MAKING PROGRAMMES

The diagram below illustrates how the scope of LCSF grants to institutions, individuals and other voluntary organisations in Singapore has evolved since its inception.

For the year under review, based on records as at 30 June 2020 (not finalized), LCSF grants totaling \$850,000 benefited a total of over 20,500 beneficiaries measured both in terms of the capacity of the organisation to whom grants were made or the actual number of individual beneficiaries served under its various grant programs as follows:-

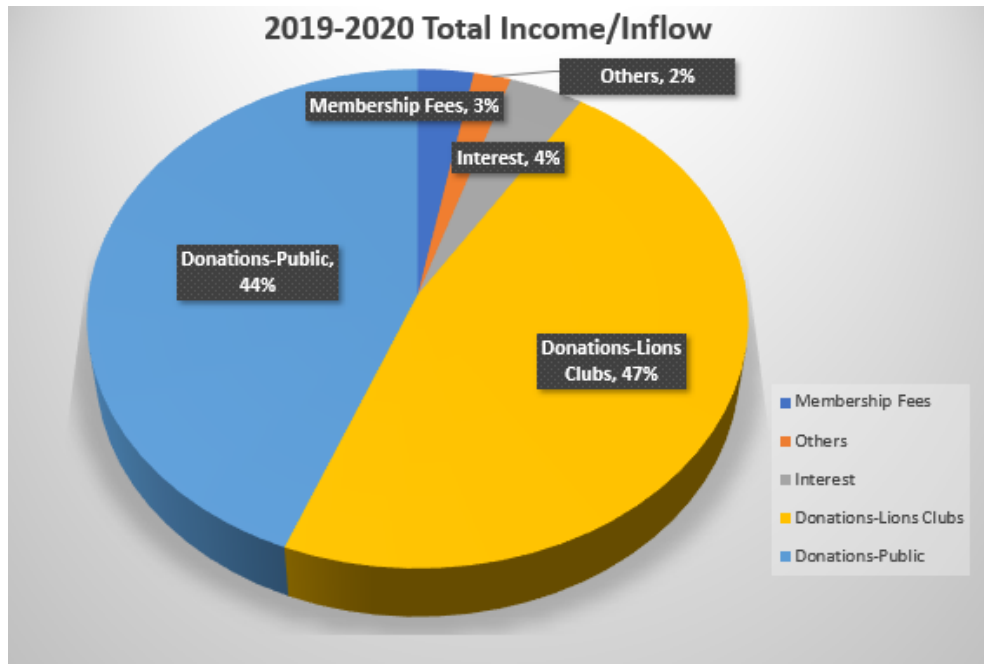
	<i>Financial Grants / Direct Donations</i>	<i>Grants to fund Programmes & Services</i>
Children & Youth	Education Bursaries; Awards & Living Allowance	Tuition for disadvantaged kids Hospice Care for children Annual Camp for Pediatric Cancer patients
Services to Elderly	Lions Home for the Elders Lions Befrienders	Social Activities Festive Treats Hot Meal Treats Market Projects
General Population	Financial hardship caused by sudden illness	Festive Treats for disadvantaged families Brain Tumour Society Public Awareness Events Diabetes Health Screening Prosthesis Centre

	No of Beneficiaries	Value
Education Fund	45	\$36,200.00
Institution Assistance	-	\$495,843.95
Financial Hardship	1	\$22,280.00
Lions Befrienders	6,000	\$30,000.00
Lions Home of Elders	-	\$4,180.00
Lions Protheses Centre	1	\$8,000.00
Festive Treats	8,160	\$189,420.95
Elderly Socials	1,796	\$14,623.63
Market Projects	700	\$6,704.69
Public Education Progra	1,100	\$4,000.00
Service Projects	2,718	\$37,830.44
Total:	20,521	\$849,083.66

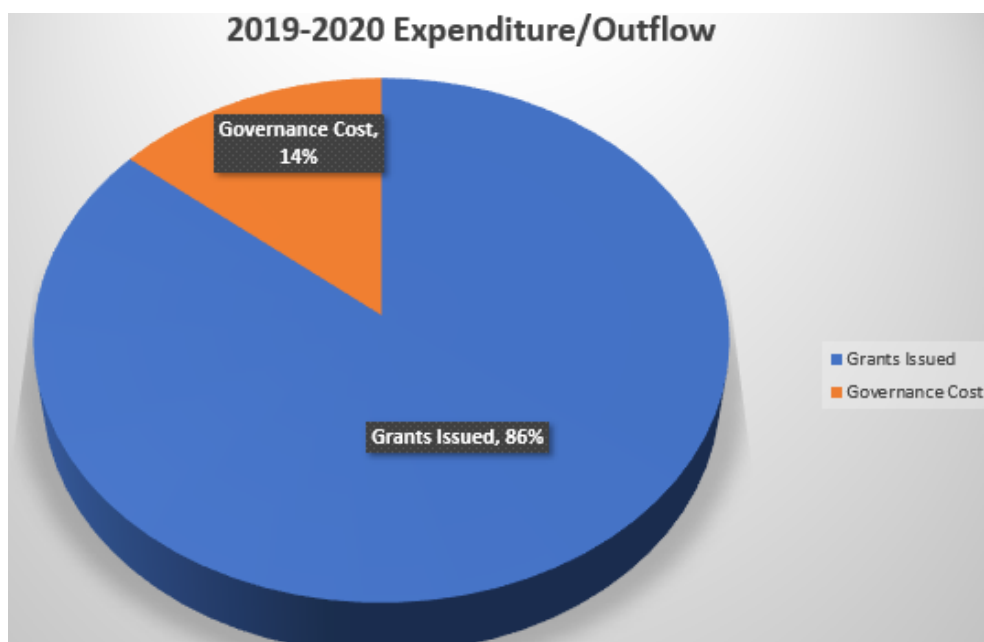


FINANCES

2019-2020 DONATIONS/INCOME



2019-2020 EXPENDITURE



COVID-19 RELATED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(a) Keeping Learning Alive

2020 is no ordinary year to all as the world witnessed the worst pandemic in history, crippling many economies and affecting livelihoods of millions all over the world from the beginning of the year. Covid-19 hit hard on Singapore just like many other countries which saw the Singapore Government taking no chance to curb the spread of the Coronavirus by restricting movements via implementation of Circuit Breaker (CB) measures from early April this year.

Schools were closed and students were required to embark on their home-based learning journeys for more than a month. Amidst closures of all physical educational programmes during CB period to minimise inter-mingling among children, **LCSF** collaborated with **Catch Them Young (CTY)** with its KidsExcel programme to keep learning alive for the under-privileged children from the Ministry of Education - Financial Assistance Scheme.

Prompt actions were taken to raise funds from both corporate and individual donors, including friends of the Lions, by both **LCSF** and **CTY** to put in place an Online Booster initiative. The initiative enabled tutors to conduct classes online with children accessing online assessments and learning videos on the portal. Under the “**Keep Learning Alive**” programme, these under-privileged children were provided with compatible learning devices with mobile connectivity and necessary infrastructure. Together with **Community Foundation of Singapore (CFS)**, a total amount of \$125,000 was raised for this project to purchase tablets for approximately 1,000 students. The project will run for the rest of the year, as the Coronavirus appears to linger on and home-based learning is set to be a routine with schools setting aside several days every month for online learning.

(b) 'Humanity' COVID-19 Donation 2020

(i) Understanding the difficulties some individuals may face amidst Covid-19 pandemic, LCSF has stepped forward in the humanity spirit of Lionism with our financial contributions to support those who are financially hit by the virus especially those working in the frontline who are saving lives and helping to contain the deadly spread of the virus in our community-at-large.

LCSF had extended financial support of \$10,000 to “**Courage Fund**” (under the NCSS Charitable Fund) and \$10,000 to “**Sayang Sayang Fund**” (managed by The Community Foundation of Singapore). These donations go towards supporting and providing relief to those affected by COVID-19, including vulnerable individuals and families, healthcare workers, frontline workers and community volunteers.

(ii) LCSF is proud to stand in partnership with **Lions Befrienders (LB)**, during this Covid-19 period, in bringing holistic care for at-risk seniors island wide, primarily those living in rented units. LCSF’s financial assistance of \$30,000 provided support to engage essential services for 6,000 at-risk seniors, helping them overcome difficulties they faced during the lock-down times. LB operates islandwide with services including Befriending Service, 10 Senior Activity Centres, 3 Cluster Support, 2 Senior Group Homes and Home Personal Care Service.

LCSF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Lions Education Fund

Bursaries for needy and deserving students from the Lions Education Fund continues to cover all levels of education in Singapore – from **Primary, Secondary, Junior Colleges, ITE, Polytechnic** and other **Skill Colleges to Universities**. At the tertiary level, besides Lions bursaries being available at all local Universities such as **NUS, SUTD** and **SIT**, Lions Education Fund also provides annual book prizes and financial assistance to students from very low family per capita income.

Bursaries from Lions Education Fund for Primary and Secondary schools are annual projects of Lions Club of Singapore Katong, Nanyang, Ji Yang and Central, who also raised funds for these bursaries. They continue to support the student beneficiaries as they enter post secondary education such as ITE, Polytechnic and Junior College.

In dollar terms, each bursary at Primary and Secondary levels range from \$200 to \$300 while that for University students is worth \$2,000 to \$5,000 each. Post Secondary such as Poly and JC bursaries range between \$600 to \$1,100 per student.

In the year under review a total number of 45 students benefited from Lions Education Fund bursaries for a total disbursement of more than \$36,000.

Financial Assistance to the Destitute

LCSF Financial Hardship Assistance Scheme for individuals provides financial support to families that suffered financial hardship due to the sudden death or serious illness of the main bread winner. The number of beneficiaries was reduced due to one person for the financial year under review.

Mr Peter Chia who was diagnosed with Parkinson disease since 2011 was moved to a nursing home after his family home was sold in March 2018 and his family's income was insufficient to support the expenses at nursing home. A financial support of \$285/month was given to Mr Chia for the period of August 2019 to March 2020 when Mr Chia passed on. There has been no new case of such families requiring financial hardship assistance from LCSF during the financial year under review.

Festive Treats & Elderly Socials (Hot Meals & Charity Concerts) for Poor and Lonely Senior Citizens

Organizing events for the poor and lonely elderly from low income families to provide opportunities for them to celebrate major local festivals is a traditional service activity of Lions Clubs in Singapore. Participants of Festive Treats organised by Lions Clubs include the lonely elderly covered by the Lions Befrienders program, resident participants of Lions Befrienders Senior Activity Centers and seniors from AWWA, in addition to residents of homes for the elderly. The Festive Treats are usually held in restaurants and the funded expenditure for such Festive Treats usually include cost of food, transportation by bus for the elderly and their professional and volunteer caregivers to the venue of the functions, entertainment during the dinner or lunch as well as 'Goody Bags', Ang Pows and Lucky Draws. Hot meals are typically held at the Senior Activity Centers nearest to where the elderly beneficiaries live.

In the period reported on a total of \$189,420.95 and \$14,623.63 grants were disbursed by LCSF supporting service activities benefiting 8,160 and 1,796 elderly for Festive Treats and Elderly Socials respectively.



Lions Grocery Service Projects, Wet Market Projects & Vegetable Charity Drive Projects

The Lions Clubs in Singapore organize regular Grocery and Wet Market Projects where volunteers from the Clubs hire transport to deliver fruits and vegetables donated by the vendors in various wholesale markets such as **Pasir Panjang Market** and **Chong Pang Market** to be distributed to charity organizations and needy individuals. Beneficiary organizations include **Lions Home of Elders (Bishan and Bedok)**, **Jamiyah Home for the Aged**, **AMK Sunlove Home**, **SWAMI Home**, **The Hiding Place** and many other welfare organizations that work with lower income families. Donations are made to LCSF by both well-wishers of these projects and Lions Clubs members and participating Lions Clubs would apply for grants from LCSF to fund cash requirements including cost of transportation to deliver the groceries to the beneficiaries.

In the period reported on a total of \$6,704.69 grant was disbursed by LCSF benefiting 700 individuals under the Grocery and Wet Market Projects.

Service Projects

Lions Club members were actively involved and dedicated their time for various service projects during the year such as Care & Share Project for Intellectually disabled, Blood Donation Drive, Art of Giving Exhibition to raise fund to support artists with disabilities and Sleep Tight Mattress Project for Sunbeam Place to replace mattress for Singapore Children Society.

In the period reported on a total of \$37,830.44 grant was disbursed by LCSF benefiting 2,718 individuals under these Service Projects.

Financial Assistance or Contribution to Voluntary Welfare Organisations

The organisations being financially assisted under the Financial Assistance (Organisation) Scheme for the review year are:-

1) **Brain Tumour Society Singapore (BTSS)** – A voluntary welfare organization formed by parents, caregivers and professional health and social workers to provide physical and emotional support to families whose members suffer from brain tumour. Besides providing counseling and caregiver support, members of BTSS also conduct public awareness program on brain tumour.

LCSF provides fund for their public awareness programs as well as fund the organization of BTSS particularly their ability to provide physical and psychological support to caregivers of patients with brain tumour. Members of BTSS also raise funds from their friends and well-wishers to complement LCSF financial assistance. The financial support BTSS received from LCSF for the review year was \$67,654.68.

2) **HCA Hospice** – LCSF provides financial assistance to HCA's palliative services to families with children with life ending illnesses paying for the services professional social workers to attend to such families. Total financial support LCSF extended to HCA in the review year was \$35,614.47.

3) **Catch Them Young (CTY)** – a registered social enterprise which support children from disadvantaged backgrounds to provide extra assistance to the underperformed children, improving their learning and behavioural attitudes with its "**KidsExcel**" programme. The programme is a weekly all year-round programme to build children's confidence through enrichment classes, Life Skills courses, Sports Competitions, Learning Journeys etc. It is an inclusive programme held on weekends, hosted in partnering schools or Community Clubs.

LCSF's financial support pays the teachers and volunteers who conduct the tuition and were recruited and trained by "**KidsExcel**" who also manages the CTY programmes. CTY programmes also attract corporate financial support under their social responsibility program to fund their school tuition programmes. The donations are channeled to LCSF which reimburse the expense on a monthly basis.

In the period reported on a total of \$392,574.80 grant was disbursed by LCSF benefiting over 300 students on its weekly tuition/sports programme under CTY's "**KidsExcel**" programme.

Local Application of Lions International Programs

Lions World Sight Day

Eye screening exercise was held in October 2019 at Canberra CC for seniors to have their eye screening done by Singapore National Eye Centre staff and doctors on their conditions and advised for referral and follow-ups. Lions from various clubs provided the logistics, administrative co-ordinations and meals requirements. The event saw 1,100 elderly benefiting with a eye check and a total of \$4,000 grant was disbursed by LCSF towards the fund the project.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING & GRANT

Bicentennial Community Fund (BCF)

Between 1 April 2019 to 31 December 2020, BCF offers dollar-for-dollar matching for donations to Institutions of Public Character (IPCs), up to a cap of \$400,000 per IPC. LCSF had submitted an initial application in September 2019. A Final Report with an unqualified assurance audit report for FY2018/2019 and FY2019/2020 on the eligible donations that we received within the qualifying period will be submitted by 31 March 2021 for this funding.

Enhanced Fund-Raising Programme (EFR)

On 26 May 2020, Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Heng Swee Keat announced at the Fortitude Budget that the Government will provide additional support by increasing the matching amount to provide successful EFR applicants with a dollar-for-dollar matching, capped at \$250,000 per applicant. This enhancement would mean donations raised by IPCs like LCSF, from fund-raising projects between 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, would be eligible for a dollar-for-dollar match if all conditions are met (with a cap at \$250,000). As at June 2020, LCSF has received \$150,000 donations from various fund-raising projects for which may be eligible for matching grant. All Lions Clubs are encouraged to organize fund-raising projects to collectively achieve the matching cap of \$250,000 by 31 March 2021.



STRATEGIC DIRECTION

LCSF looks forward to more collaborative social service projects with partnering organizations such as Catch Them Young Ltd (CTY) to further expand our outreach to the community, serving our cause to help the less fortunate or disadvantaged groups in the society.

LCSF and CTY have jointly supported over 300 beneficiaries via after-school sports and academic enrichment programmes held in schools since 2016. The beneficiaries are Primary school children from financially disadvantaged backgrounds from schools that we partner with. The recent Covid-19 situation has presented areas where an increased scope of intervention is necessary since home-based learning would be a new norm going forward and procurement of learning devices with connectivity will be necessary for these children.

With the “**Keep Learning Alive**” (KLA) Project, LCSF and CTY are looking at expanding the community outreach to increase to 900 children by year 2023 and this will be made possible through strong collaborative efforts garnered from Community Partners such as schools, Social Service Offices, Family Service Centres and Grassroots organizations. LCSF and CTY will be submitting a proposed joint sponsorship request to **Tote Board** to fund the three-year KLA project of approximately \$3mil.



LCSF AWARD

Before adjournment of the meeting, I'm delighted and thankful to put on record that about 30 Lions Clubs deserved LCSF recognition for their contribution and their sincerity in supporting LCSF Vision to reach a high level of recognition from the community. These Lions Clubs will be invited to receive LCSF Award Badge and limited edition LCSF Pins.

A special mention and recognition to the late PP Loh Chuan Fatt for his immense volunteerism and contribution to LCSF.

LCSF looks forward to the continuing support to serve the community with compassion and sincerity. This deep appreciation is dedicated to all donors and supporters.

In conclusion, stay safe, healthy and strong. Be vigilant and God bless all the best and till we meet again.