



**SMA
Charity
Fund**

For Doctors, For Patients

Our Vision

*A compassionate
profession that impacts
healthcare*

Our Mission

*Strengthen medical
professionalism to
benefit the community*

SMA

CHARITY FUND

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



SMA CHARITY FUND

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(as of 31 December 2017)

The SMA Charity Fund (SMACF) is managed by a Board of Directors, which also acts as the Programme and Fundraising Committees. The Board is supported by a management staff under the employment of SMACF and the staff team of the Singapore Medical Association (SMA).



PROF WONG TIEN YIN
Chairperson



DR CHARLES TOH CHAI SOON
Advisor



MR COLIN LIM FUNG WAN
Chairperson,
Human Resource
Committee;
Member, Audit
Committee



MR T K UDAIRAM
Chairperson,
Audit Committee;
Chairperson,
Nominating
Committee



DR WONG CHIANG YIN
Chairperson,
Finance
Committee



MR ALEX KOH WEI PENG
Member, Audit
Committee



DR LIM KHENG CHOON
Member, Human
Resource
Committee



DR NOORUL FATHA AS'ART
Member,
Nominating
Committee



ADJ PROF TAN SZE WEE
Member, Finance
Committee



PROF THIO LI-ANN
Member, Finance
Committee

Board Meeting Attendance Record 2017

Name	Attendance
Prof Wong Tien Yin	3/3
Dr Charles Toh Chai Soon	3/3
Mr Colin Lim Fung Wan	1/3
Mr T K Udairam	2/3
Dr Wong Chiang Yin	3/3
Mr Alex Koh Wei Peng*	1/1
Dr Lim Kheng Choon	3/3
Dr Noorul Fatha As'art	0/3
Mr Sitoh Yih Pin†	0/2
Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee	2/3
Prof Thio Li-ann	0/3

*Joined on 20 October 2017

†Stepped down on 20 October 2017

ON THE COVER:

SMACF beneficiaries (from left to right): Ong Jing Zhi (M4), NUS Medicine; Michelle Chong Tian Hui (M1), LKCMedicine; Lim Yong Yang (M4), NUS Medicine; Zen Lee Wei En (M1), LKCMedicine; Neo Theng Hong (M1), Duke-NUS; Gerald Lim En Yao (M3), NUS Medicine; Soh Ming Li (M1), Duke-NUS; Tseng Fan Shuen (M2), NUS Medicine; Frederick Lee Wei Chen (M1), LKCMedicine

Photo taken at *The Helix*

SMA Charity Fund (UEN: 201305017N) was registered in Singapore as a 'Company Limited by Guarantee' under the Companies Act on 25 February 2013. SMACF has been a registered charity under the Charities Act since 17 April 2013 and recognised as an Institution of a Public Character by the Commissioner of Charities since 27 December 2013.



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND RESERVES POLICY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A strong and experienced board of directors will be able to best serve the objectives and interests of SMACF. Our board of directors comprises individuals from diverse professional backgrounds who possess immense experience in governing charities and a keen interest in healthcare and medical education. The heterogeneity of the Board allows for robust discussion and a diversity of ideas, which would further advance the objectives and interests of SMACF. No member of the Board is paid for services to the SMACF in that capacity.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

All board members and key management personnel of SMACF are required to read and understand the policy on

conflicts of interest that are in place, and make full disclosure of any interests, relationships and holdings that could potentially result in a conflict of interest. When a situation with a conflict of interest arises, the conflicted party shall abstain from participating in the discussion and decision-making of that matter.

RESERVES POLICY

In addition to reviewing our reserves on an ongoing basis, SMACF intends to maintain a sufficient level of reserves to allow it to continue its work and perform continuing obligations even when donations dry up during unforeseen circumstances. Our reserves will be reviewed on an ongoing basis, while new and current programmes develop and proceed.

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

As proud members of a noble profession, we stand on the shoulders of giants, from the outstanding teachers and mentors to the founding fathers of Singapore medicine and healthcare. We often attribute our success to our hard work and intelligence, yet forgetting the road that was paved before us.

Our shared vision of the SMACF is to remember the tradition of our profession and to build and nurture a new generation of compassionate doctors

Any young person who has the passion, ability and dream to be a doctor, irrespective of family background and socioeconomic status, has the chance to be a member of our profession.



and professionals that impacts our healthcare. This is only possible with strong support from physician-role models that inspire the next generation of doctors through their industry, perseverance, compassion and generosity.

The medical students of today form the backbone of tomorrow's healthcare. Yet, in Singapore's society where social mobility has declined, for many potential future medical students from lower socioeconomic strata, the pursuit of a medical education is a daunting one due to rising tuition fees and cost of living. Over the years, SMACF has been working with our medical schools to ensure that any young person who has the passion, ability and dream to be a doctor, irrespective of family background and socioeconomic status, has the chance to be a member of our profession. We help students where it is most needed.

Since our inception in 2013, we have been actively engaging various stakeholders through four strategic initiatives: providing financial assistance to needy medical students through the SMA Medical Students' Assistance Fund (SMA-MSAF); advocating volunteerism by promoting and supporting meaningful student-led healthcare projects; supporting learning exposure by sponsoring underprivileged students for overseas learning conferences; and recognising mentorship by acknowledging exemplary medical educators.

One of the key challenges we faced in 2017 was the decreasing number of donors and quantum of donations. To counter this, we ramped up efforts to generate publicity and brand awareness throughout the year. In August, SMACF participated in FutureMed 2017, where long-time donors were invited to engagement sessions with student beneficiaries, and students were given opportunities to present their SMACF-supported community service projects. A donor management system has been set up to better engage our donors, as well as to enhance protection

of donors' data and information. We have also started exploring additional avenues of giving through technology, and leveraging on the strong network of the SMA to galvanise its members to raise funds collectively. With the increased publicity, we were encouraged to see a small influx of new donors and to receive enquiries from donors who wished to explore giving as a tribute to their loved ones in the form of a Legacy Gift.

In 2018, we will continue to focus on building a broader and more sustainable donor base with a call to action – "Pay it forward! Donate \$50 or more per month".

I urge you, my fellow doctors and donors, to support us in this impactful endeavour. SMACF remains committed to help nurture the doctors of tomorrow and provide a level playing field by supporting passionate but underprivileged medical students throughout their education journey.

APPRECIATION

I am grateful to the Board of Directors, management and staff, who have been steadfast and committed in the face of the challenges faced over the past year. In particular, I wish to record my appreciation for former board member Mr Sitoh Yih Pin for his leadership and contribution throughout his tenure, and also welcome Mr Alex Koh Wei Peng to the Board. I also wish to thank the Deans of the medical schools and their respective offices for their collaboration over the years, as well as our donors and volunteers for their unflagging support and generosity.

Prof Wong Tien Yin
*Chairperson,
Board of Directors*

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Through a four-pronged strategic approach, SMACF endeavours to develop a compassionate medical profession that contributes towards better healthcare in Singapore:

1 PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

SMACF reaches out to needy medical students, providing financial aid through the SMA Medical Students' Assistance Fund (SMA-MSAF). Funds are fully disbursed to these students and not offset against their tuition fees, so that the basic living expenses of the students and their families can be met.

When I first received my GCE 'A' Level results, I was delighted that I could apply to study medicine locally. Back then, I had my mind set on pursuing the medical profession, as I wanted to help others in ways that I thought I could do best and enjoy the most. But, as I was reminded by a teacher in junior college who posed a question to me about university fees, enrolment was only the beginning of a challenging five years. Five years is a long time to reach financial independence and I am truly thankful for my family's support and trust in me.

So when I was first notified about receiving the SMA-MSAF, I felt a deep sense of relief. The bursary, targeted at helping students with financial difficulties cope with their daily expenses, has eased my family's financial burden. With my

hectic study load and clinical work, it allowed me to focus on academics and becoming a better doctor.

I am proud to have received the bursary for four consecutive years, as well as the SMA-Dr Michael Benedict Toh Kok Kuan Medical Students' Assistance Fund in 2018. The medical school journey has been a fulfilling experience and I thank SMACF for its kind donation and trust in me. The bursary has taught me the virtue of "paying it forward" and inspired me to fulfil a similar role in the future. Every medical student desires to become a good and competent doctor in the future and I think that finances should be the last thing they have to worry about while pursuing this dream.



LIM YONG YANG
M4 student,
NUS Yong Loo Lin
School of Medicine

2 ADVOCATING VOLUNTEERISM

SMACF believes in the value of building a compassionate medical profession. We support volunteering opportunities that tap on the technical skills of the medical profession to benefit the community through healthcare projects. A column in *SMA News*, "From the Heart", regularly features volunteering opportunities and personal stories of the medical profession giving back to society.

3 RECOGNISING MENTORSHIP

SMACF develops awards in recognition of outstanding mentors and researchers, with a special focus on research that has made significant contributions to public health.

WONG HOCK BOON (WHB) – SMACF OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD RECIPIENTS 2017

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Dr Yeo Wee Song | 6 Dr Joe Yeong |
| 2 Dr Stephanie Young | 7 Dr Ng Jun Jie |
| 3 A/Prof Theodoros Kofidis | 8 A/Prof Angela Koh Su-Mei |
| 4 A/Prof Brian Goh Kim Poh | 9 Dr Frederick Koh |
| 5 Dr Javed Iqbal | 10 A/Prof Lingaraj Krishna |

4 SUPPORTING LEARNING EXPOSURE

SMACF lends necessary support to needy medical students to enable them to attend medical conferences or overseas elective postings, creating equal opportunities in the pursuit of medical knowledge beyond the local context and exposing them to different medical systems, spectrums of diseases and patient demographics.

“SMACF allows medical students to give their best to make society a better place – now as a community leader, and in the future as a doctor who touches lives and grooms the next generation.”

TSENG FAN SHUEN
M2 student,
NUS Yong Loo Lin
School of Medicine



It has been said that “To whom much is given, much is expected.” Having been lucky enough to get into medical school, I took it upon myself to give back to the community. I joined one of NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine’s (NUS Medicine) flagship health service projects, Neighbourhood Health Service (NHS), and subsequently became the project director. NHS is a student-led community service project that aims to identify residents in need, especially the elderly and residents of lower socioeconomic status living in rental blocks, and reconnect them with the healthcare system.

At first glance, SMACF appeared to be only a funding source. However, I soon realised that it represented much more than monetary support; the SMACF committee provided valuable feedback and advice on how to conceptualise NHS for the benefit of the residents. In addition, SMACF graciously invited NHS to present at FutureMed 2017 to showcase the project to the public and healthcare institutions.

SMACF also contributed greatly to my personal development and learning. In January 2017, the NHS committee submitted an abstract to participate in the International Society for Quality in Healthcare Conference, one of the largest public health conferences in the world. To our surprise, the abstract was accepted and I was nominated to represent the project as first author. However, due to financial constraints, I was unable to bear the full cost of the trip even after obtaining school grants. At this juncture, SMACF reached out a helping hand and sponsored a significant proportion of the remaining cost.

In this short encounter, SMACF successfully met all the needs and plugged the gaps it identified from the onset, namely financial needs, volunteerism, mentorship, learning exposure, provision of public education, and health screening and follow-up checks. As medical students who aspire to contribute to society and become a good doctor, being held back by lack of funding, learning opportunities and experience is worrisome for many. By supporting and providing guidance to needy students and projects, SMACF allows medical students to give their best to make society a better place – now as a community leader, and in the future as a doctor who touches lives and grooms the next generation.

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to SMACF and all its donors for helping me learn not just the science of medicine, but also the art of healing. I will always bear in mind that I have received much and must in turn give back in the future, to help needy students and projects overcome financial barriers. The only ceiling they should face is how much their hearts and minds are willing to give.

KEY STATISTICS

Thanks to you, this year has been a productive one for SMACF. Here are some of the highlights since our inception in 2013:

> \$1.2 MILLION

RAISED 

from new initiatives (i.e. joint-named bursary, memorial donations) and direct mailers for charitable activities under SMACF

> \$1 MILLION
DISBURSED

for financial assistance (including funds held by the NUS Development Office)

210 **SMA-MSAF BURSARIES AWARDED** 

to support the living expenses of needy medical students

> 40,000 **FREE**

PUBLIC HEALTH SCREENINGS CONDUCTED in local communities to raise health awareness and to help connect people to the local healthcare system

> \$200,000 **INVESTED**




to promote volunteerism through print and electronic media

> 30,000 **HOURS VOLUNTEERED**

by healthcare students and medical professionals from supported community projects

7 **RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPPORTED**

(including 1 overseas elective) with findings presented at medical conferences 

39 **WHB-SMACF OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARDS**

to recognise exemplary mentors who made a significant difference to the development of their students

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

SMACF recorded a surplus of \$90,058 for financial year (FY) 2017, not including the \$145,000 disbursed through the funds held by the NUS Development Office for the SMA-MSAF in 2017. Income for FY 2017 was largely derived from donations by SMA members and the SMA. Donations from corporations and non-medical doctors made up 33% of our income. The increase in donations from non-medical doctors was primarily from legacy gifts, a new initiative in memory of late doctors. Through it, we started the inaugural joint-named bursary and explored the collection of collective memorial donations online via Giving.sg. Direct mailers still remained our main avenue for fundraising. By December 2018, SMACF will receive a final disbursement of approximately \$150,000 from the National Council of Social Service's Care and Share matching grant. In total, we would have received \$377,015.19 from this grant.

In 2017, our expenditure increased by \$9,128 as compared to the previ-

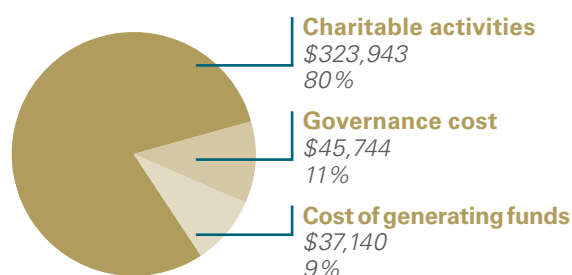
ous year. This is primarily attributed to the increase in the number of bursaries and overseas learning grants we awarded. In academic year 2017/2018, SMACF saw an increase in the number of applications and awards given out to students across all three medical schools. Apart from awarding 55 SMA-MSAF bursaries (88.5%), we also sponsored four needy medical students for learning exposure (3.6%), supported eight local community service projects promoting volunteerism in the medical community (7.5%) and awarded ten WHB-SMACF Outstanding Mentor Awards in recognition of exemplary mentors (0.4%). We also participated in FutureMed 2017, to increase brand awareness through publicity outreach to the medical profession and members of the public. Overall, we utilised 80% of our expenditure for charitable activities (inclusive of the amount expended from funds held by the NUS Development Office), 9% for fundraising activities and 11% for governance-related activities.

	Financial Period	
	Jan-Dec 2017	Jan-Dec 2016
	\$	\$
Statement of Financial Activities		
Donations in cash		
Tax-deductible	229,520	184,715
Non-tax-deductible	4,718	6,725
Grants	117,648	50,335
Total receipts	351,886	241,775
Total expenditure	261,828	252,700
Balance Sheet		
Total assets	445,470	355,606
Total unrestricted funds	442,773	347,205
Total restricted funds	0	5,510
Total liabilities	2,697	2,891
Other Information		
Number of employees	1	1
Total employee cost	66,069	76,525
Fundraising efficiency ratio*	15.86%	19.90%
Total Related Party Transactions		
Management fee expenses	35,567	28,248
Donation income	78,000	70,000

*Fundraising efficiency ratio is the ratio of the total fundraising expenses to the total gross receipts from fundraising and sponsorships of the charity or Institution of a Public Character for that financial year. To maximise the charity dollar, the total expenses incurred on fundraising events shall not exceed 30% of the total donations collected through fundraising appeals in that year.

SMACF EXPENSES (FY 2017)

Inclusive of \$145,000 disbursed from funds held by the NUS Development Office



DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



SMACF turns five in April 2018. We thank our wonderful donors for journeying with us throughout the years. We cannot make this journey alone, but together as a united profession, we can impact the future. Your support for the SMA-MSAF has been overwhelming since its inception, and we call on your continued support for SMACF and its activities.

INDIVIDUALS

Dr Atasha Binti Asmat	Mrs Donna Hoefle	Dr Robin Low Chin Howe	Dr Tan Wu Meng
Dr Hardie Billy	Ms Juan Meng Yag	Mdm Mun Swee Heong	Dr Daniel Tan Yew Weng
A/Prof Chai Ping	Ms Kim Na Nyun	Ms Nawira Baig Bte Israr Baig	Dr T Thirumoorthy
Ms Emily Chan	Ms Koh Yin Ling	Dr Ng Wai Chong	Mr Toh Han Pin
Dr Anthony Chao Tar Liang	Dr Lam Pin Min	Dr Caroline Ong Choo Phaik	Dr Luke Toh
Dr Chen Yu Helen	Ms Lau Tse Ling	Dr Ong Eng Cheng	Dr Tong Pei Yein
Mr Chew Zheng Hao	Ms Magdalene Lee Hui Min	Dr Peng Yeong Pin	Ms Anna Wong
Dr Paul Chiam Toon Lim	Dr Lee Lay Tin	Mr Jean Yves Robert	Dr Wong Chiang Yin
Dr Martin Chio Tze-Wei	Dr Lee Tzu Hooi	Dr Sin Wen Yee	Dr Wong Juuan
Dr Chng Soke Miang	Ms Lim Huey Yuee	Dr Tan Cheng Lim	Dr Wong Nan-Yaw
Dr Chu Siu Wen	Dr Lim Hui Ling	A/Prof Nigel Tan Choon Kiat	Dr Andrew Yam Kean Tuck
Dr Chua Seng Chew	Mr Danny Lim Teck Chai	Dr Tan En Yu	Mr Yeo Chin Hian
Dr Dohadwala Kutbuddin	Dr Darren Lim Wan Teck	A/Prof Tan Hui Ling	Other anonymous donors
Mr Goh Hock Guan	Dr Lim Wei Kian	Mr Tan Kok Yeang	
Dr Selina Ho Kah Ying	Dr Sheila Loh Kia Ee	Mr Tan Sung Chyn	

CORPORATE/NON-INDIVIDUALS

Alpha Omega Medical Pte Ltd	NUS Faculty of Medicine Class of 1993
Apex Cardiology Pte Ltd	Seattle International Foundation

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The following donations were made in loving memory of late doctors for their dedication to the medical profession:

In Memory of Dr Tan Chee Beng
In Memory of Dr Michael Benedict Toh Kok Kuan
In Memory of Dr Wong Yu Yi

The above list is from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017 and may not be exhaustive. If we have inadvertently omitted the names of any donors, we apologise for the oversight.



Many years ago, I responded to an appeal by SMA to help needy medical students with their daily expenses. Since then, I have contributed annually to the SMA-MSAF. This is a cause worth supporting. I was fortunate to have been the recipient of the local merit scholarship during my undergraduate medical course. The scholarship paid for not only my tuition fees but also my books and living expenses.

Annual tuition fees and expenses for the medical undergraduate have increased by at least 15-fold from the '70s (when I graduated) till now. The financial burden is indeed heavy, especially for students from lower-income families. By giving financial assistance to these students, they will be able to pay full attention to their studies and achieve their full potential. I would like to ask all doctors to support this worthwhile cause by contributing to the SMA-MSAF.

DR ONG ENG CHENG

PROJECTING INTO THE FUTURE

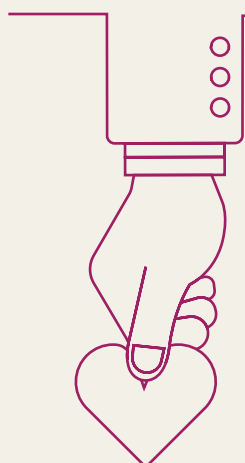
We are committed to our goal of addressing the myriad needs in the medical and public health landscape and meeting future challenges in our continued pursuit of better healthcare in Singapore.

In 2018, SMACF plans to drum up our publicity outreach through purposeful engagements with donors and beneficiaries, and to co-create a strong

identity and positive culture of giving among medical professionals. We will work to achieve our fundraising target of \$450,000, building a broader and more sustainable donor base of doctors and donors to join us and pay it forward. More will be done to meet the needs of financially challenged medical students to ensure equal access to quality medical education.

We recognise that strong governance is becoming an increasingly important criterion in assessing whether to donate or volunteer services to a charity. At SMACF, we strive to uphold the highest standard of governance and transparency in all our activities. Policies and practices are reviewed to ensure effective management, compliance and assurance for our donors and supporters.

In celebration of our fifth year of doing good, we hope to mobilise the medical profession to come forward as one and double our donor base. This will help us to continue the work we are doing so that every needy medical student can receive continued support for their living expenses throughout their education journey.



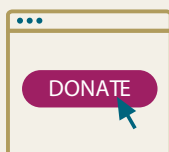
PAY IT FORWARD!

DONATE \$50 OR MORE PER MONTH

It only takes 750 individuals to pledge \$50 a month to meet our fundraising goal!

Only we can build our own legacy for the future of healthcare

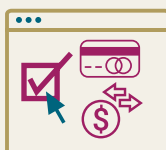
BE OUR DONOR (For new donors)



Complete a donation form at <https://goo.gl/YWXXni> or donate online at <https://www.giving.sg/smacf> today and choose your preferred mode of payment to make a one-time donation.

SIGN UP AS OUR REGULAR DONOR

(For new/existing ad-hoc donors)



Complete the Credit Card/GIRO component in the new donation form at <https://goo.gl/YWXXni> to pledge at least \$50/month in perpetuity.

INCREASE YOUR REGULAR DONATION

(For existing monthly/annual donors)



Write to us the new amount you would like to contribute on a perpetuity basis and choose your preferred mode of payment.

We accept the following modes of payment: Visa, Mastercard, GIRO and cheque. All donations above \$50 qualify for 250% tax deduction and can be automatically included in your tax assessment if you provide us with your NRIC/FIN/UEN.

SECTOR ADMINISTRATOR

Ministry of Health (MOH)

BANKER

Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited

AUDITOR

Kreston David Yeung PAC

SMA CHARITY FUND

c/o Singapore Medical Association
2 College Road, Level 2
Alumni Medical Centre
Singapore 169850
Tel: 6223 1264
Fax: 6224 7827

UEN

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WEBSITE

www.sma.org.sg/smacf

ONLINE DONATION

www.giving.sg/smacf