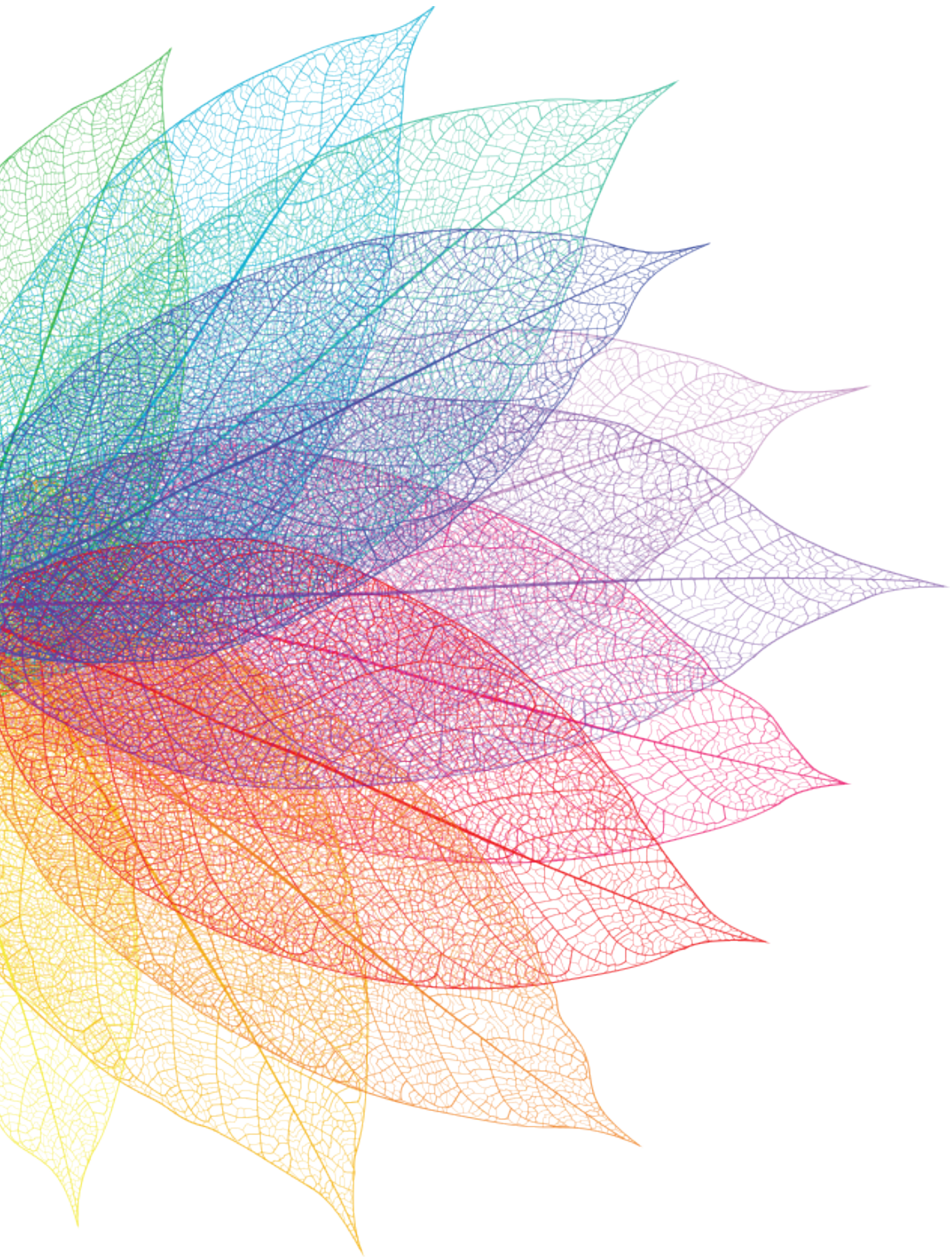




ANNUAL REPORT 2019





CONTENTS

●	Chairperson's Message	4
●	About Project Smile	7
	Mission	8
	Objectives	9
	Our Beneficiaries	10
	Beneficiary Intake Process	11
	Our Core Service Areas	13
	Emotional Support	14
	Empowerment Programmes	14
	Informational Support	14
	Financial Support	14
	Social Support	14
●	Our Family	16
	Our Volunteers	16
	PS Volunteer Values	17
	Executive committee (Exco)	18
	Our Donors	19
	List of Donors	19
●	Governance & Control Procedures	20
●	Other Projects	21
	SMILE with you - with Sri Narayana Mission	21
	SMILE Seniors Programme with C3A	22
●	The Year That Was	23
●	The Way Forward	26
	Proposed training Skills and Empowerment Programmes 2020 & 2021	27
	Sewing	27
	Art & Craft	28
	Social Programmes 2020 & 2021	28
	Message From Our Beneficiaries	29
	Ms. Sharen Jam	29
	Ms. Veera Prema	29
	Ms. Haslinah	29
●	Appendix	30
	Corporate Information	30
	EXCO Meetings	31
	Fund Raisers Held Over The Last 10 Years	31



CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

I write to you as Project SMILE Ltd. (PS) completes ten years of its existence. It has been a transformative journey for me, and the entire team! Ten years of spreading smiles to the under-served women of Singapore! Ten years of selfless service from our volunteers and donors! Ten years of learning and growing!

What started as a small gesture of offering help is now a volunteer-driven charity, focused on empowering women from disadvantaged backgrounds – through skill development programmes and social integration initiatives. Through our many services, we have touched the lives of over one hundred beneficiaries and their families. Our beneficiaries have come a long way with the Project Smile team – learning new skills, being productive and earning extra income through the sale of the products they create.

The exposure has infused them with new confidence, making them willing to go that extra mile to learn and create a steady source of income for their family. Our dream is to provide self-sufficiency through employable skills to all our beneficiaries.

I take this opportunity to speak about a couple of our beneficiaries. After completing her training with us, Ms. D (name not revealed for privacy reasons), was motivated to make a trip to Bangkok to source manufacturing materials at a cheaper rate. PS had inspired her to become an entrepreneur!

Another beneficiary, Ms. K, successfully uses social media to sell the artworks created by her. This gives her the much-needed extra income plus the recognition as an artist.

When I meet these women and others like them, I am always humbled and re-motivated to create a difference in their lives. These women only needed some direction, to spread their wings and they are strong enough to chart their own paths. I am glad that through PS, we can make a difference to their lives! I hope that going forward, Team PS continue will be a catalyst of transformation in their lives.

One of the many ways PS engages, encourages and motivates these women is through training programmes such as: sewing, art, craft, jewellery making, candle making and henna painting. The training programmes are geared to equip these women with the tools and skills to not only deal with the difficult challenges they face in their daily lives, but also help them to stand on their own two feet towards a better future. We have showcased some of our products in this report. These are just a few creative snapshots of what our beneficiaries are capable of with training a little encouragement.

We at PS, not only provide training, but also offer emotional support through our befriender's programmes. We harness the power of community spirit by celebrating festivals and important days together. As we step into the next decade of our journey, we have many plans to expand and improve our offerings.

Currently, we do not have a permanent place of operation. We plan to have a dedicated centre for our beneficiaries, which will not only be a hub for training, but also a hub for networking, where they can forge friendships and find a support system.

We also plan to extend our training by adding newer courses. We already have plans for the next two years to take in more beneficiaries and to teach them new skills

like cooking and baking. We would need equipment and trainers for these courses. All these plans need funding. Funding is required to engage trainers as well as for the purchase of training materials, rental of premises and other incidentals. We need your support to help our beneficiaries overcome their struggles. Your generous donations will be greatly appreciated, and no contribution is too small. There are many ways of contributing to PS. One of them is by purchasing the products made by our beneficiaries. These lovingly, hand-crafted products will find a beautiful home and bring a smile to your faces and ours! Please visit our website (www.sgprojectsmile.org) to view our entire product catalogue and to place orders online. Other ways include sponsoring a training programme, donating materials for our products and monetary donations.

We also welcome committed volunteers who can dedicate their enthusiasm, time and energy to take PS to new heights. Our family of PS volunteers bring unique skill sets and come from different walks of life - but they all have one common desire - to give back to society and make a difference.

I thank all of our volunteers for their selfless service. I also would like to take this opportunity to thank all our donors and benefactors for believing in our cause and supporting us generously through the years. A special thanks to HEB, VKT, Akhila, William Chua of Gold Bell Towers, Lisha and Sree Narayana Mission for their continued support to Project SMILE.

Team PS would like to thank Mr. Manish Shrestha for his invaluable contribution in designing this annual report.

Yours in service,

Uma Balji

OUR PRODUCT RANGE

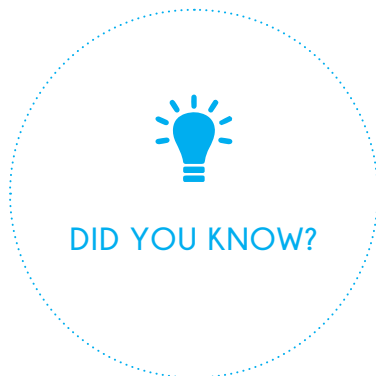


ABOUT PROJECT SMILE

Project SMILE Ltd (PS) is a Singapore based charity which was started in 2010, by a group of like-minded women to raise funds, with a single motive: to provide assistance to women from disadvantaged background. We wanted to extend help to alleviate their situation, and initially we did that by providing financial assistance. Within a few months, we realized what they needed was a more sustained effort to improve their circumstances. Like the ancient Chinese proverb says,

“ *Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day; teach a person to fish and you feed them and their family for a lifetime.* ”

If we really wanted to make a difference, we needed to empower them with employable skills. We also had to help them to cope with psychological issues, self-esteem issues and social inclusiveness. Most of them were caregivers to the aged, infirm and/or children and they needed to have the resilience and emotional strength to cope with life's many challenges. To this end, we started a holistic programme that would make them financially independent and emotionally stable. Our identity was born!



- In Singapore, despite the governmental and quasi-governmental organisations working for the betterment of financially and socially challenged women, a number of them still end up falling through the cracks.

- These are mainly single women with limited or no employable skills, low self-esteem, facing many psychological and financial challenges.

- They are often the primary care givers for invalid dependents and/or young children with minimal support system.

MISSION

To support and empower women with psycho-social needs through our programmes and services.





- To provide a platform for women facing adversity - to help them lead an empowered and dignified life.
- To provide interim financial assistance to women facing difficulties either for themselves and/or their families.
- To provide personalised and sustainable training to women who are looking for economic stability and social mobility.
- To provide entrepreneurial opportunities to women through development of vocational skills and expertise.
- To play an advocacy role for disadvantaged women at both the micro and macro levels.
- To engage in fund raising activities that would facilitate provision of assistance and also help run training programmes for women.

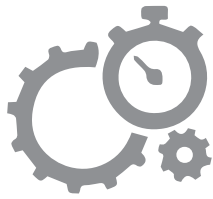


OUR BENEFICIARIES

Our beneficiaries are women with psycho-social needs, not limited to the following areas:

- Low income with limited or zero social and employment opportunities.
- Divorced/separated.
- Single parent.
- Medically challenged.
- Abused (physically/emotionally).
- Shelter/housing issues.
- Any immediate family member with a chronic/ life threatening/ critical medical condition.
- Low functioning.
- Incarcerated.
- Ex-offenders.
- Loss of employment.
- Gambling problem.
- Other social issues.

PS identifies the beneficiaries through referrals from Family Service Centres and through applications from the general public. In most circumstances, the beneficiaries are provided with interim financial relief to manage their immediate requirements. Thereafter, we work together with the beneficiaries to look into other measures of long-term aid in the form of individualized training and/or upgrading skills.



BENEFICIARY INTAKE PROCESS



IDENTIFICATION

- Walk-ins and referrals from the Family Service Centres.
- Tie-up with social organizations for referrals.
- Create awareness through media campaigns.



REGISTRATION

- Fill up a detailed form.
- Assessment of applicant done.
- If falls within criteria, social report is put up.



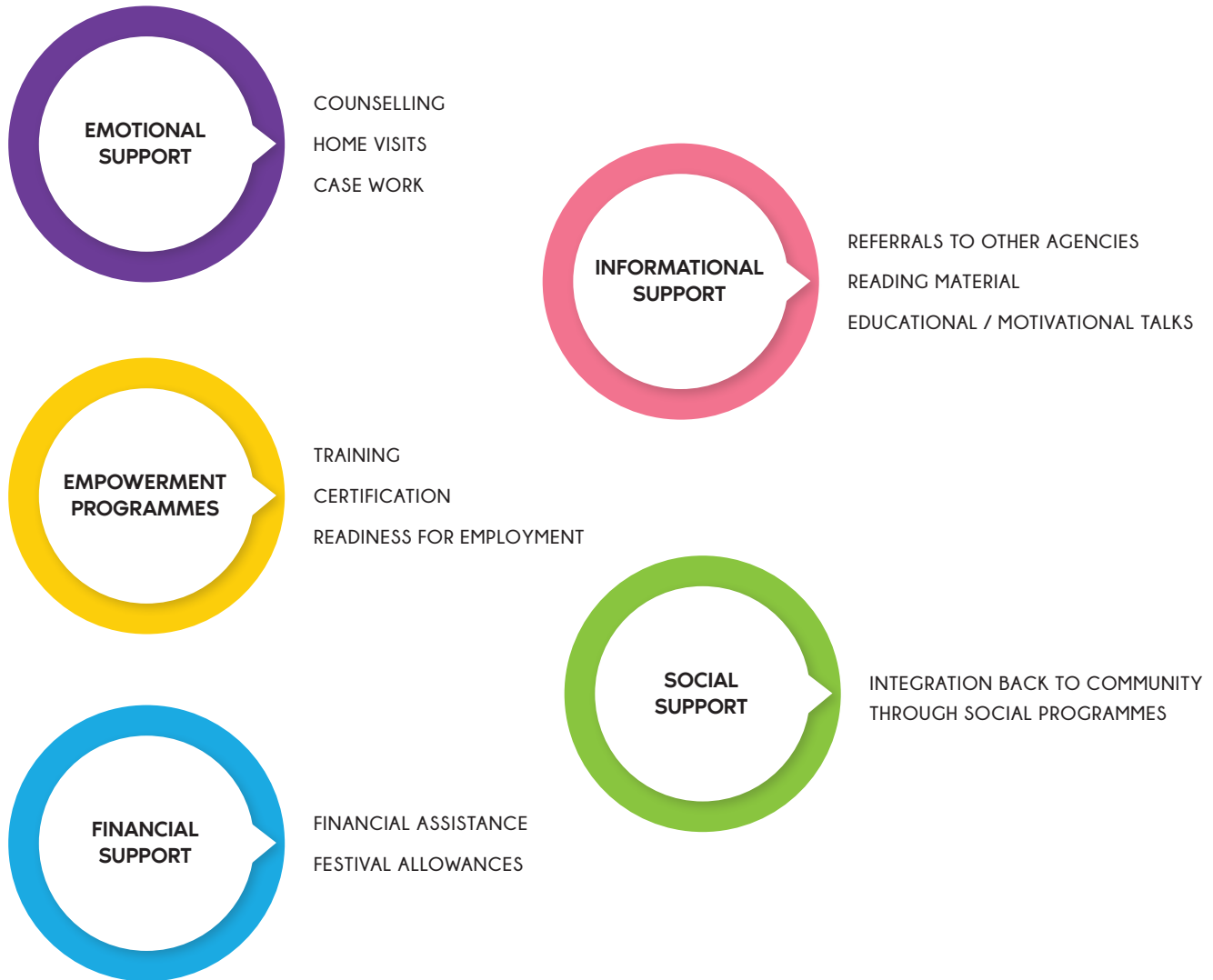
ALIGNMENT

- Post approval by Board, approved as beneficiary of PS.
- Alignment of beneficiary to the recommended PS core service.



OUR CORE SERVICE AREAS

We train, we teach, we mentor, we befriend, we support, we spread SMILES!



EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Besides the skills development programmes, our other focus area is the Befrienders Programme, where our volunteers befriend our beneficiaries, connecting with their assigned beneficiaries, on a regular basis - listening to them and keep the PS EXCO abreast of any issues the beneficiaries may be facing. They make home visits, when and where necessary.

EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMMES

We offer practical, application-oriented programmes in a warm and comforting environment. The courses are held weekly and run by our team of committed volunteers. We offer employment assistance, wherever possible. We also train them to face interviews and give tips on work ethics and managing work challenges.

PS looks to provide employable skills to all its beneficiaries, be it for full-time or part-time employment. Our training activities were started in 2013 with the first activity being jewellery making sessions. Since then, our training team has grown and we have regular training sessions in jewellery making, designing/painting diyas & candle holders, other handicraft materials, basic sewing skills etc. We have partners who collaborate with us and buy the products made by our beneficiaries. Our product range has widened, and we are also increasing the number of trainees. These activities help our beneficiaries earn a regular income, working from home.

Vocational skills training

- Jewellery Making
- Spa / Beauty Services
- Handicraft Classes
- Sewing and Stitching Classes

Life Coaching Sessions

- Tackling depression & mental health
- Addressing challenges of menopause
- Stress Relief for prime care givers

Life Skills

- Basic Spoken English
- Personal Grooming
- Money Management

INFORMATIONAL SUPPORT

Singapore has several organisations and benefit programmes for the betterment of women from disadvantaged backgrounds. Since many of our beneficiaries are not very well educated or socially aware, we keep abreast of any such programmes and provide information as well as referrals to our beneficiaries so they can avail of these benefits. We also organise events and invite speakers to give motivational and educational talks to our beneficiaries from time to time.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The products created by the beneficiaries of PS are showcased and sold through various exhibitions and bazaars around Singapore. These funds help us to pay the beneficiaries an attendance-based stipend, provide interim financial aid, festival allowances and sponsor family day outings for them and their families.

SOCIAL SUPPORT

Lack of social support can hinder a person's overall quality of life. It is related to negative impacts on health and well-being. Participation in social support activities can contribute to psychological and physical wellness, by reducing stress, increasing physical health and preventing depression.

Social Support activities organised by PS help beneficiaries maintain an active social life through the participation in outings with friends or attending an organised outing on a periodic basis. Engagement in social activities is encouraged to prevent feeling isolated, help them stay active, independent and provide social stimulation and connection within the community.





OUR FAMILY

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the backbone of PS. We could not have travelled so far without their unstinted efforts and commitment to the cause.

We have around twenty-five committed and dedicated volunteers who facilitate the planning, implementation and supervision of all programmes, in addition to providing support and motivation to the beneficiaries. PS believes that our volunteers are vital to the success of our programme. Our volunteers bring in optimism and enthusiasm, create positive energy and share diverse perspectives that lead to enhanced learning outcomes for our beneficiaries. We try to align individual volunteer's purpose of contribution with the programme's objectives.

Volunteers join us through referrals from friends, word of mouth or through our website. They are required to fill out an application form after which they are interviewed and selected by a small group tasked with volunteer recruitment.

In order to motivate our volunteers to cultivate the spirit of volunteerism into a meaningful and purposeful lifestyle, we have defined a set of values for our volunteers.

PS VOLUNTEER VALUES

- **SHOW RESPECT** - Volunteers are giving up their own time to help further our cause and showing respect is an integral part of building trust and empathy with them.
- **COMMUNICATE** - Regular meetings are conducted to give our volunteers a sense of direction and also give them a chance to have their say and provide support and supervision.
- **OPEN-DOOR POLICY** - We encourage volunteers to approach the Executive Committee (Exco) anytime if they need any advice or guidance.
- **FIND COMMON GOALS** - Exco works with the volunteers to align their purpose for volunteering with what is most optimal for PS.
- **RECOGNISE ACHIEVEMENT** - Exco recognizes and appreciates all the efforts put in by our family of volunteers.
- **BUILD TEAM SPIRIT** - Creating a sense of community and bonding within our team by organizing periodic get togethers.
- **ENCOURAGE AND DEVELOP TRAINING** - Investing in personal development and training for its volunteers. This not only gives the volunteers a better understanding of their role but motivates them to better themselves.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCO)



Uma Balji
Chairman



Suchitra Vipin Chandran
Vice Chairman



Selvam Varathappan
Director



Rajalaximi Rajaiya
Director



Vinita M Choolani
Director



Iru Barman
Exco Member



Uma Ranganathan
Exco Member



Rogini Aiyadurai
Exco Member



Lydia Cyril
Staff

OUR DONORS

“Hands that serve are holier than lips that pray”. We are a strong believer of this, and our donors are a fitting testimony to this statement.

The support from our donors since our inception, has been greatly influential in accomplishing our purpose of empowering women. It is their continued support that sustains our mission and helps us spread more smiles.

Besides skills development, the donations are used for the beneficiaries to enjoy social and recreational outings and build self-esteem in a positive loving environment. Our donors also support us by buying the products made by our beneficiaries. We truly appreciate their continued support. As a volunteer powered organisation, we are able to bring a smile to many women because of donors like you. We are extremely grateful that so many generous souls have supported our cause.

“ A big thank you to the following organisations/donors that have contributed to PS over the years! ”

LIST OF DONORS

1. Hindu Endowments Board
2. Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA)
3. Little India Shopkeepers & Heritage Association (LISHA)
4. Agrocorp International Pte Ltd
5. Goldbell Towers
6. Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple
7. Sri Siva Durga Temple
8. Sri Thendayuthapani Temple
9. The Kamala Club
10. Mr Ameerali Abdeali
11. Mohamed Mustafa & Samsuddin Co. Pte Ltd
12. Loyang Tua Pek Kong Temple
13. Zimplistic Pte Ltd
14. Credit Suisse AG Singapore
15. Omni United (S) Pte Ltd
16. Mr S Gopal Krishna Pillay
17. Chinmaya Seva Centre
18. Binjaitree
19. Ms Sarala Menon
20. Mr Shekaran Krishnan
21. Mr Manu Baskaran
22. Sree Ramar Temple
23. Second Chance Properties

GOVERNANCE & CONTROL PROCEDURES

PS lays great emphasis on proper governance in running our charity. A team has been set up to review the governance issues in running PS. The team is expected to produce a report highlighting the good practices that we should follow.

Based on their recommendations, we have in place a proper register to monitor the list of finished products completed by the beneficiaries. The register records all the items created by our beneficiaries and a code number is given for each product. When the item is sold, the register is updated. Periodically, a stock assessment is done to reconcile the balance in the register with the physical stock of finished products.

An Exco meeting is normally held every month to review the management accounts and all financial decisions are made at this meeting. All decisions made are recorded and filed. Details of upcoming events are also discussed. Exco also discusses the progress report of the beneficiaries and decides if the beneficiary should be upgraded to a higher level, or even told to leave if their attendance or attitude is not up to the required standard.

We have tasked our lawyer volunteer to highlight the salient points that are in the Charity Act so that we do not infringe any of the sections. PS practises proper governance under the Charity Act and adheres to all recommended protocols.

Conflict of interest policy:

PS has in place policies and procedures to manage and avoid situations of conflict of interest. All board, Exco and volunteer members are required to make declarations of conflict of interest to PS at the start of their terms of directorship - annually, or as soon as such conflict or the possibility of such conflict arises. Board members do not vote or participate in decision-making on matters where they have a conflict of interest. All employees are also required

to make declarations of conflict of interest at the time of hiring - annually or as soon as such conflict or the possibility of such conflict arises, to ensure that all parties will act in the best interests of PS.

Financial management and internal controls:

The Board reviews and approves the annual budget at the beginning of the financial year. The management account is reviewed and compared to the budget during the monthly exco meetings. Any deviations are explained in the meeting and reasons are minuted. PS is committed to disclose audited statements which give a true and fair review of PS's financial statements to ensure that they are in accordance with the requirements as specified by the regulatory bodies.

Reserves Policy:

The total expenditure that is budgeted and authorized to be incurred for the following year should not be more than 50% of the current year's reserves. This is to ensure that the level of reserves is adequate to sustain PS for a few years ahead, giving sufficient time to build an alternative source of income. Exco reviews the amount of reserves on a yearly basis when approving the following year's budget to ensure that this is followed. Any excess cash can only be invested in fixed deposits with a local bank.

Disclosure of Remuneration and Benefits received by the Exco member:

No Exco members were remunerated for their services in the financial year 2019.

Disclosure of Remuneration of Staff:

Project SMILE does not have any staff who receives more than \$100,000 in annual remuneration individually. The charity has no paid staff who are close family members of the Exco, who receive total remuneration of more than \$50,000 during the year.



SMILE WITH YOU - WITH SRI NARAYANA MISSION

In May 2018 we collaborated with the well-established Sree Narayana Mission, Singapore (SNM), to commence the SMILE with You programme. At present the programme is tailored to train 20 SNM beneficiaries on basic techniques in painting in different art forms and create designs for various products. The art training aims to provide the SNM beneficiaries with the necessary skills as well as to be beneficial to them at a therapeutic level, enabling a

sense of wellness, confidence and self-worth.

We are proud of the fact that two of the beneficiaries of PS, who have trained in our skills training programme are now assigned as assistant trainers in the SMILE with You programme. Having started as beneficiaries themselves, graduating to training others has enhanced their sense of self-worth, self-confidence and self-belief. Through their own journey with PS they wish to progress to helping others.



SMILE SENIORS PROGRAMME WITH C3A

In the beginning of 2019, PS partnered with the Council for Third Age (C3A) to promote active aging among the seniors. C3A, set up in 2007 is a government agency, which promotes active ageing in Singapore through public education, outreach and partnerships. As an umbrella body in the active ageing landscape, with its focus on senior learning and volunteerism, as well as positive ageing, C3A works with and through partners to help third agers age well. Smile Seniors was supported by Sree Narayana Mission Home in Yishun.

The objective of the Smile Seniors programme is to promote an opportunity for our existing beneficiaries, underprivileged women (single/separated mothers) over fifty years of age to give back to society, other than preparing them to be self-sufficient. PS believes that the best way to ensure that the women have a smooth transition back to society is by getting them involved in community services and by helping others in need.

The beneficiaries for this programme were mainly the seniors staying in Yishun near the Sree Narayana Mission Home. We had beneficiaries over fifty years of age of all races attending this programme. The programme was very well received and so successful that we had more than eighty beneficiaries within four months and registrations had to be capped since we could not accommodate more than that. The programme was held every Friday from 10am to 12pm. For the first hour a professional physical trainer conducted an exercise routine combining Zumba, Pilates etc. with music, and in the second hour the seniors were engaged in games or art and craft activities.

The Smile Seniors is being funded by C3A. Our agreement with C3A is that we run this programme for three years. For the first year, we conducted this programme once a week. In the second year we will have two classes a week and in the third year, three classes a week. Funding given is strictly meant for this programme only.

THE YEAR THAT WAS

2019 was an exciting year for us. Not only did we conduct our regular classes and meetings, we also participated in various events and activities held across Singapore, thus introducing our beneficiaries and our work to the larger population. Apart from this, we also celebrated special days with our beneficiaries through entertainment programmes.

International Women's Day Event 9 March 2019.

International Women's Day event was celebrated with dance performances by volunteers, games for beneficiaries and a graduation ceremony for our graduates Sedhalakshmi for sewing, Veera Prema and Sharen Jam from art.

They are now part of the PS family as Assistant Trainers. The event ended with a sumptuous dinner. Vanitha Devi- from Style Etiquette/ Image Management had a workshop called "Colour me Beautiful" for our beneficiaries on grooming, makeup and image consultancy and wellness.

NRI Buzzar 12 April, 2 August and 11 October 2019.

The Indian community organises buzzars twice a year, showcasing products from India. PS is always invited and given a pro bono stall to sell items made by our beneficiaries.

BridgeAble at Dempsey 25 April 2019.

BridgeAble brings in entities in the philanthropic sector from across India and in Singapore. It is a platform for charities and social enterprises to sell their products and merchandise.

Mother's Day Event 11 May 2019

Mother's Day Event conducted by Chinmaya Mission. An afternoon spent on motivational talk, zumba exercises, and goodies distributed by the mission's members.

Crazy Poor Sita - PS Fundraiser 14 September 2019

Project SMILE's yearly fundraiser was performed by the talented Ms. Sharul Channa. The event was also an opportunity to showcase and market our wide range of products. Through her brilliant mono-act, Ms. Channa brought awareness about the "many Sitas" in our community - their daily struggles and challenges to eke out a decent living.

Indian Women's Association 17 September 2019.

Indian Women's Association Singapore have their annual cultural festival and buzzar and PS was invited to the event to setup a stall for selling items made by our beneficiaries.

Project SMILE Deepavali Event 5 October 2019.

We collaborated with Sree Narayana Mission to do a fun event for their residents. Our beneficiaries and their children participated in a cultural programme that ended with dinner.

RELC Concert Event 16 November 2019.

Pro bono stall at the Concert.

Christmas Bazaar 5 December 2019.

PS was invited for the Christmas Bazaar by Ernst & Young, Singapore.

World Saree Day 7 December 2019.

Demure Drapes celebrated World Saree day with our beneficiaries. The event included saree draping, food and a gift of a saree to all our beneficiaries.

GLIMPSES OF THE YEAR THAT WAS

SHARUL CHANNA IN
CRAZY POOR SITA
A ONE-WOMAN COMEDIC MONOLOGUE
A FUND RAISER FOR PROJECT SMILE



SAT, 14 SEP 2019
7 PM

BUY TICKETS:
<http://bit.ly/PS CrazyPoorSita>

SUPPORTED BY:
PROJECT SMILE



TICKET PRICE \$30
VENUE: PGP HALL,
397 SERANGOON ROAD,
SINGAPORE 218123



GLIMPSES OF THE YEAR THAT WAS



OUR PLANS FOR THE YEAR 2020-21 INCLUDE

1. Acquiring operating space:

PS is facing a space constraint since the donated space where training is conducted is available only two days a week. PS cannot afford to rent an office space at present with the limited funds at our disposal. It is our objective to generate funds to help get our own space in the coming year. This would enable us to:

- Move from the temporary space donated to us which can be withdrawn at any time.
- Enlist beneficiaries who have registered with PS, but cannot be currently accommodated due to space constraint.
- Allow us to expand and regularize our training/skill development programme to daily sessions.
- Have enough storage space to sort, manage inventories and store the finished products instead of moving them around in boxes every week.
- Enable PS to fulfil the increasing demand for products created by our beneficiaries and hence generate more income.

2. Sponsoring outside training for beneficiaries

We would like to sponsor a few of our beneficiaries for external training courses for further skill enhancement, if they display the talent and interest. For those who are specialized in sewing and cooking, we would like to promote their services through the PS website and Facebook page and help them generate income through direct orders from clients.

3. Introduce Life Skills Training

We are seeking to partner with certified training institutions to train our beneficiaries in life skill areas like computer literacy, basic money management, other monetizing skills so they can find greater opportunities in life.

4. Programmes for Senior Citizens

We plan to introduce more programmes for our seniors, especially to address issues like loneliness and depression faced by many among them. We would like to create a support system to engage them, so they have someone to talk to and share their problems and issues with. This programme was started in the past but had to be shelved due to a paucity of funds.

PROPOSED TRAINING SKILLS AND EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMMES 2020 & 2021

SEWING

PROGRAMMES	SYLLABUS	TRAINERS	TIMINGS	DETAILS
2020				
Intermediate Module 2	Basic shift dress, table runners, pencil pouch, simple bag, clutch, book covers, burlap bags. Made-to-order items.	Trainer Haslina / Asst Trainer Sedhalakshimi	Saturdays 2:30 to 5 pm.	Basic shift dress, 24 hrs to complete for beginners, and for experienced students 9.6 hrs. (Est 4 to 5 lessons) Fabric- good cotton, linen.
Sewing Level 1 Beginners Module 1	Cushion covers, table runners, pencil pouch drawstring pouches, simple bag, wine bottle covers	Trainer Haslina	Mondays 10 am to 12:30 pm	12 weeks training.
2021				
Level 2 Intermediate	Pants and palazzo making, table runners, pencil pouch, simple bag, clutch, book covers, burlap bags. Made-to-order items.	Trainer Haslina/ Asst Trainer Sedhalakshimi	Saturdays 2:30 to 5pm.	Basic pants and Pallazzo, 24 hrs to complete for beginners, and for experienced students 9.6 hrs. (Est 4 to 5 lessons) Fabric- Good cotton, linen. Level 2 will continue dress making, bags, pouches, clutches, etc. and make to order items
Level 1 Beginners	Cushion covers, table runners, pencil pouch drawstring pouches, simple bag, wine bottle covers	Trainer Haslina	Mondays 10am to 1230pm	12 weeks training.

ART & CRAFT

PROGRAMMES	SYLLABUS	TRAINERS	TIMINGS	DETAILS
2020				
Beginner Level	Beginner basic painting and stencilling.	Asst Trainers Veera / Sharen		Smaller items.
Advanced Level	Design independently	Rani & Team, Janaki	Mondays 10 am to 12:30 pm	Approved products for 2020.
2021				
Beginner	Basic Painting and Stenciling	Asst Trainers Veera/ Sharen	Saturdays 2:30 to 5pm	Approved products for 2020.
Advanced Level	Design Independently	Rani & Team, Janaki	Saturdays 2:30 to 5pm	Approved products for 2020.

SOCIAL PROGRAMMES 2020 & 2021

These are regular programmes organized by PS throughout the year. A partial list of proposed programmes includes:

- Orientation for new beneficiaries.
- Talks on financial management.
- Talks on health and wellness.
- Basic computer skills.
- New workshops - cookery lessons, glass painting, candle making and henna designing.
- Organise Events: International Women's Day, Mother's Day, Deepavali celebration and other outings.

MESSAGE FROM OUR BENEFICIARIES



Ms. Sharen Jam

I was a full-time homemaker for many years and spent those years building a good foundation for my family. However, I took courage and took myself out of my comfort zone. I joined the various church ministries and made many friends, found a job in the service industry and continued to meet people from all walks of life and it is now endless.

With the grace of God, after experiencing a down time in my life, many doors were opened to me and one of these was Project SMILE.

With the desire to learn new skills and the hope of starting my own business I met with the volunteers of PS. They were warm and welcoming. I was introduced to art and sewing.

Somehow since school days, I used to excel in art. I never thought much about it after and did not pursue it. In my first year, I concentrated purely on my brush strokes, doing base painting on various items, fearing anything intricate. But with practice, and the continuous patience and guidance from the trainers, I slowly gained confidence and moved on from painting simple designs to very intricate ones. Today, I am proud to have my work displayed and sold at the many bazaars that PS is a part of.



Ms. Veera Prema

I am a mother of two children and was a divorcee. Faced with financial, emotional and medical issues, I went into depression. Requests for help from various sources were turned down.

It was during this time that I was introduced to Project Smile Limited. I was sceptical initially but with my daughter's encouragement, I decided to give PS a try.

I started with art sessions with PS doing base painting of diyas. This was followed by learning to do simple designs on the diyas, working from home. I found this to be therapeutic. Slowly, I became less depressed and was motivated to do more. I looked forward to Saturday's training sessions.

From learning art, I moved on to learn sewing and then jewellery making. But as I was passionate about art, I decided that this was the area I would like to focus on. For someone who did not know anything about drawing, let alone painting, I progressed tremendously. This would not have been possible without the encouragement and patience of PS trainers. Now I am designing and painting not only diyas but jewellery boxes, trays, tissue boxes, bottles, candle holders, diya boards etc. With this skill, I have become an entrepreneur in my own right, doing business online.

My greatest achievement was being promoted to Assistant Trainer for PS. With the confidence given by PS, I am now able to guide new beneficiaries in their art journey.

I remain forever indebted to PS for showing me the way to manage myself.



Ms. Haslinah

I joined PS in 2018. I have learnt a lot of things from them. I've learnt how to do art and craft such as bottle painting, designing tissue boxes and many more. Throughout my journey in PS, I have made a lot of friends and gained confidence in myself. Only after coming here I discovered that I had a talent in this area. I have full support from the teachers and peers. They are very encouraging and motivate me a lot. As a single mum, I also earn some extra income from PS to support my family by doing a lot of work from home. This extra income helps me a lot.

I am very grateful to Project SMILE for all their help, support and motivation in the last two years.

APPENDIX

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Project SMILE Ltd was established as a “Limited by Public Guarantee,” under ACRA, on 7 March 2014. On 3rd September 2015, Project Smile Ltd obtained the “Charity,” status under the Charities Act.

UNIQUE ENTITY NUMBER	201406530G
Registered Address	6 Shenton Way # 23-08 OUE Downtown Singapore 068809. Email – contact@sgprojectsmile.org
External Auditor	MGI N Rajan Associates Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants 10 Jalan Besar # 10-12 Sim Lim Tower Singapore 208787.
Principal Banker	OCBC Bank.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS / MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Gunasundari d/o Sathu Nair aka Uma Balji	Chairman	7 Mar 2014
Suchitra Vipin Chandran	Vice Chairman	11 May 2017
Selvam s/o Varathappan	Director	7 Mar 2014
Rajalaximi Rajaiya	Director	7 Oct 2016
Vinita M Choolani	Director	9 Oct 2014
Iru Barman	Exco Member	8 Jun 2014
Uma Ranganathan	Exco Member	1 Jan 2019
Rogini Aiyadurai	Exco Member	1 May 2019
Lydia Cyril	Staff	1 Sept 2016

EXCO MEETINGS

Project Smile Ltd had seven exco meetings in FY 2019. Details of the Exco meetings attendances are as follows:

EXCO MEETINGS FROM JANUARY 2019 – DECEMBER 2019

10th January 2019	19th March 2019	21st May 2019	21st July 2019
4th August 2019	12th October 2019	2nd November 2019	

ATTENDANCE

Name	Designation	EXCO Meeting Attendance
Gunasundari d/o Sathu Nair aka Uma Balji	Chairman	7/7
Suchitra Vipin Chandran	Vice Chairman	7/7
Selvam s/o Varathappan	Director	6/7
Rajalaximi Rajaiya	Director	7/7
Vinita M Choolani	Director	0/7
Iru Barman	Exco Member	5/7
Uma Ranganathan	Exco Member	7/7
Rogini Aiyadurai	Exco Member	4/7
Lydia Cyril	Staff	4/7

Note:

1. Director Vinita M Choolani had been travelling most of the time due to the nature of her work and therefore was not able to attend the exco meetings.
2. Exco member, Rogini Aiyadurai joined Exco in May 2019 and therefore not reflected in the first two Exco meetings in Jan 19 and Mar 19.

FUND RAISERS HELD OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS

Since its inception PS has raised funds largely through annual charitable events organised internally or with the support of donor organisations. Proceeds from these events are channelled towards the Skills Development Programme for beneficiaries.

The list of the fundraiser events held over the years includes:

- 2011 :** Themed charity dinner 'Colours of India,' held at Meritus Mandarin.
- 2012 :** The musical production 'Taj Mahal,' staged at the Kallang Theatre.
- 2013 :** Themed charity dinner 'Bollywood Thru the Ages', at Marina Mandarin.
- 2014 :** Mystique 7, performance by Singapore Indian Orchestra and Choir, organized by Arte Compass at the Victoria Theatre.
- 2015 :** Charity dinner, 'Waves', at One Farrer Park Hotel.
- 2016 :** The Bird Cage, a play by Gauri Gupta.
- 2017:** Mindless Whispers, a play on tackling mental health issues, by Gauri Gupta.
- 2018 :** Umeed – Colours of Hope presented by Sunena Gupta at PGP Auditorium.
- 2019 :** Crazy Poor Sita an English Monologue Comic Play written and acted by Sharul Channa at PGP Auditorium.



PROJECT
SMILE

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