

# THE TENT

## Annual Report for Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015

The Tent, a residential home for teenage girls was set up in 18<sup>th</sup> October 2001 as a society. It was registered under the Charities Act on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2002. It is also gazette as a Place of Safety under the Women's Charter and the Children and Young Persons Act on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2002.

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Charity Registration Number | : 1544 (22/01/2002)   |
| ROS Registration Number     | : ROS 213/2001 WEL (18/10/2001)   |
| UEN Number                  | : T01SS0154B  |
| Registered Address          | : 1034, Upper Serangoon Road<br>Singapore 534797  |
| Board of Governors          | : The Board of Governors was elected<br>At the 9th Annual General Meeting<br>held on 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2014                                     |
|                             | 1) Prof Tan Ser Kiat      President<br>2) Mrs Lim Siew Koon    Vice President<br>3) Ms Ginny Chew        Secretary<br>4) Ms Hong Wee Tin      Treasurer |
| Premises                    | : The current premise is leased<br>from the Singapore Land Authority  |
| Auditor                     | : Baker Tilly TFW LLP   |

### **Vision and Mission**

The Tent aims to be an excellent organization that uses the best practices to enable our teenage clients to reintegrate themselves back to their families and society.

The Tent endeavors to provide a safe and conducive environment for female adolescents in need so that they can attain reconciliation within themselves, with their families and society.

Through our structured programmes, which are based on compassion and respect for each individual, our clients will experience “new truth” which is a deeper awareness of their basic dignity and goodness.

Our ministry to our clients and their families is based on:

- 1) Respect for their inherent dignity, faith and culture
- 2) A compassionate approach in our service delivery.

### **Our Objectives**

Facilitate family and personal growth through:

- Counseling and therapy : both for the clients and their families
- Personal development: this is achieved through the cornerstone and fledges programmes aimed at facilitating the resident's growth into a mature and responsible person.
- Journeying with our residents through positive role modeling

Empowering of the individual through tapping into her inner resources and building her self-esteem.

Instilling respect for the others and themselves

Facilitate reconciliation within the family.

\*Integration of the person and family is the ultimate aim of The Tent. It is however, recognized that in some cases, this ultimate goal may not be possible. In such cases, we will work towards enabling our residents to fully come to terms with their experiences and take directions to help them become independent before their discharge.

### **Our Clients**

Teenage girls (11 -21 years) who:

- come from broken and dysfunctional families
- are abused and in need of care and protection
- exhibit behavioural problems
- are in need of crisis shelter

### **Our Programmes:**

1) Cornerstone Programme – foundation programmes which teaches basic life skills.

- personal development
- clothes mending and fabric care
- healthy lifestyle
- study discipline
- meal preparation
- decision making
- time management
- anger management

- budgeting
- quiet time and reflection

2) Fledge Programme - ad hoc programmes like camps, music and drama, sports and outdoor activities.

3) Unplugged Programme – counselling programmes

## **Funding**

The Tent receives per capita grant and rental reimbursement from the Ministry of Social and Family Development and is also dependent on public donations to run its residential programmes. Nominal fees are collected from the family members of the residents as payment towards their board and lodging. Such fees are based on the family's financial background and their ability to pay.

## **Application for Admission into The Tent**

Referrals for admission are made by the officers from the Ministry of Social and Family Development, other voluntary welfare organisations, family service centres, schools, family members and relatives,. A pre- admission interview is conducted for assessment purposes with every referral to determine the suitability of The Tent's programmes to meet the needs of the client.

## REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 2015

### Residential Services for the Year 2015

In the year 2015, The Tent admitted a total number of cases.

| <b>Status</b>   | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| Number of cases brought forward from 2014             | 11            | 11           |
| Add: Cases admitted for 2015                          | 2             | 2            |
| Add: Cases returned from absconding for the year 2015 |               |              |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                       | 13            | 13           |
| Less: Cases discharged for 2015                       | 5             | 5            |
| Less: Cases absconded                                 |               |              |
| Total (as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015)          | 8             | 8            |

### Analysis of the Type of Cases Admitted

| <b>Case Type</b>                            | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| • Sec 5(1) (Probation Hostel, POA)          |               |              |
| • Sec 9(1) (Child Abuse, CYPA)              |               |              |
| • Sec 44(1) (Offender, CYPA)                |               |              |
| • Sec 49(1) (Care & Protection, CYPA)       |               |              |
| • Sec 50(1) (Beyond Parental Control, CYPA) | 1             | 1            |
| • Sec 160 and 163 (Place of Safety, WC)     | 1             | 1            |
| <b>MSF Referred</b>                         |               |              |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| • Admitted by the Home                  |   |   |
| • Referred by other agencies (KKH, SCS) |   |   |
| Total                                   | 2 | 2 |

### **Analysis of the Cases Discharged**

The minimum period of stay for every resident is 6 months with a review of the case at the end of the period. Cases admitted by the Youth Court usually stay for a minimum period of 1 year and a maximum period of 2 years.

| <b>Reasons for Discharge</b>   | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| a) Expiration of term/Order  | 2             | 2            |
| b) Released on licence   |               |              |
| c) Transferred to other Home to complete the Order                     |               |              |
| d) Ordered by the Court  |               |              |
| e) Attained age limit  |               |              |
| f) Upon parent's request   |               |              |
| g) Improved family conditions  | 2             | 2            |
| h) Parent refused to cooperate   |               |              |
| i) Child refused to cooperate  |               |              |
| j) Transferred to another Home   | 1             | 1            |
| k) Made alternative care arrangements (admitted for temporary shelter) |               |              |
| l) Others (On trial homeleave)/change of admission authority           |               |              |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>5</b>      | <b>5</b>     |

**Analysis of Cases by Ethnic Group (as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015)**

| <b>Ethnic Group</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Chinese             | 7             | 7            |
| Malay               |               |              |
| Indian              |               |              |
| Others              | 1             | 1            |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>8</b>      | <b>8</b>     |

**Analysis of Cases by Age Group (as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015)**

| <b>Age Group</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 12               |               |              |
| 13               |               |              |
| 14               | 2             | 2            |
| 15               | 1             | 1            |
| 16               | 2             | 2            |
| 17               |               |              |
| 18               | 1             | 1            |
| 19               | 1             | 1            |
| 20               |               |              |
| Above 21 years   | 1             | 1            |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>8</b>      | <b>8</b>     |

**Analysis of Cases by Educational Standards (as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015)**

| <b>Educational Level</b>              | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Secondary 1 (Normal Academic)         |               |              |
| Secondary 1 (Normal Technical)        |               |              |
| Secondary 1 (Express)                 |               |              |
| Secondary 2 (Normal Academic)         | 1             | 1            |
| Secondary 2 (Express)                 | 1             | 1            |
| Secondary 3 (Normal Academic)         |               |              |
| Secondary 3 (Normal Technical)        |               |              |
| Secondary 3(Express)                  |               |              |
| Year 3 ( Integrated Programme)        | 1             | 1            |
| Secondary 4 (Normal Academic)         |               |              |
| Secondary 4 (Express)                 |               |              |
| Secondary 4 (Normal Technical)        | 1             | 1            |
| Secondary 5 (Normal Academic)         | 1             | 1            |
| ITE /Vocational School                | 1(VS)         | 1            |
| Polytechnics/Junior College           | 1             | 1            |
| Awaiting School Placement<br>/Working | 1             | 1            |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>8</b>      | <b>8</b>     |

## **Calendar of Events for the Year 2015**

### January

Start of the School Year

- ❖ Mentoring Programme with Beautiful People ( Ongoing) on a monthly basis for 12 months
- ❖ Calling of Tenders for the Cyclical Maintenance Project

### February

- ❖ Chinese New Year Reunion Dinner (13.02.15)

### March

- ❖ Start of the Cyclical Maintenance Project (11.03.15)
- ❖ Community Service Project with Beautiful People (21.03.15)

### April

- ❖ Outing with Volunteers from Foo Kon Tan LLP, YMCA and beneficiaries from Care Corner Family Service Centre ( Kite Flying at Marina Barrage on 11.04.15)

### May

- ❖ Exam Period
- ❖ Beautiful People Camp & Family Day at Sembawang Park(30.05.15-31.05.15)

### June

- ❖ Outing to Big Splash (Longkang Fishing) with Volunteers from Foo Kon Tan LLP, YMCA and beneficiaries from Care Corner Family Service Centre)

### September

- ❖ Y Sports with volunteers from Foo Kon Tan Grant Thornton LLP, YMCA and beneficiaries from Care Corner Family Service Centre at Bukit Purmei Hillock Park (12.09.15)
- ❖ Zhumba and Self Defence Class (19.09.15)
- ❖ Mid- Autumn Festival Celebrations with Big Sisters from Beautiful People (26.09.15)

### October

- ❖ Exam Period
- ❖ After Exams Adventure with the Big Sisters from Beautiful People (17.10.15)

### November

- ❖ Photoshoot – Your Dream Job ( organized by the Big Sisters from Beautiful People)



December

- ❖ Outing to Snow City with volunteers from Foo Kon Tan LLP, YMCA and the beneficiaries from Care Corner Family Service Centre (12.12.15)
- ❖ Christmas Dinner at The Tent (18.12.15)
- ❖ Overnight Stay at S.E.A Aquarium with Big Sisters from Beautiful People (20.12.15-21.12.15)

### **Report on Unplugged Programme**

The “Unplugged Programme” is a series of counselling programmes of which the aim is to help the residents and external clients deal with the underlying causes of their presenting symptoms. These presenting symptoms range from offending behaviours to post traumatic symptoms arising from the different forms of abuse suffered. The sessions (duration of 45 minutes to 1 hour) are conducted on a weekly basis for every resident. The counselling programme was suspended in September due to the resignation of the counsellor.

### **Awards for the Residents**

Majority of the residents in The Tent are all school going teenage girls who attend the mainstream schools in Singapore. Out of the 8 residents, 5 of them are in the Secondary Schools, 1 resident is in the Vocational School (Northlight School), 1 resident is in Singapore Polytechnic and 1 resident is working. Out of the 8 residents, 3 of them received their awards from their schools and the Buddhist Lodge for outstanding academic achievements and performance in 2015.

- ❖ April 2015- One of the resident was awarded the 2014 Secondary 3 Normal (Technical) Best in Subject : Elements of Business Skills by Manjusri Secondary School.
- ❖ October 2015 – One of the resident was given the Endeavour Award (\$2000) by The Singapore Buddhist Lodge for her academic achievements in her studies in Singapore Polytechnic.
- ❖ November 2015- One of the resident was awarded the Student of The Term at Northlight School

### **Staffing**

The breakdown of the staff strength is:

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Manager             | 1                                   |
| Counsellor          | - (Position vacant since September) |
| Programme Executive | - (Position Vacant)                 |

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Housemothers    | 4        |
| Finance Officer | <u>1</u> |
| Total           | <u>6</u> |

### **Training for The Staff:**

Wan Toy Leng:

- ❖ Clinical Supervision Training for VCH Casework Supervisors (26.02.15 & 05.03.15)
- ❖ Clinical Supervision for Casework Supervisors ( 1 ½ training each for 6 sessions at Counselling and Care Centre)
- ❖ BCM Awareness Training (20.04.15)

Natalie Yan

- ❖ Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Basic Principles – Step by Step ( 02.03.15-04.03.15)

### **Volunteers**

The volunteers of The Tent come from all walks of life. They include individuals who are professionals in their own field of work, retired teachers, and home –makers, students from the tertiary institutions (SMU, NUS etc) and the YMCA. They help out in giving tuition to the residents, conducting of the various programmes, classes and also in providing support to the staff during outings with the residents.

In the year 2015, the 3 main group of volunteers from Foo Kon Tan Grant Thornton LLP, Portek International and Beautiful People organized outings to places of interest and parties for the residents.

### **Donors**

In addition to the grants received from the Ministry of Social and Family Development, The Tent is also dependent on donations from individual and companies.

The contributions from the donors for Year 2015:

|                                    | S (\$)             |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ❖ Scandinavian Women’s Association | 8,100.00           |
| ❖ Haniffa Pte Ltd                  | 500.00             |
| ❖ SG Gives                         | 500.00             |
| ❖ Brenton Fong Architects          | 2800.00            |
| ❖ Foo Kon Tan LLP                  | 3121.55            |
| ❖ Hong Kim Joon                    | 1000.00            |
| ❖ Goh Hwee Ee                      | 1000.00            |
| <u>Total</u>                       | <u>\$ 17021.55</u> |

