



## **67 CHARITIES RECOGNISED FOR EXEMPLARY TRANSPARENCY AND GOVERNANCE PRACTICES**

*More small charities recognised for upholding transparency and good governance*

**3 December 2019 (Tuesday), Singapore** – A total of 67 charities were recognised at the Charity Transparency and Governance Awards 2019. Organised by the Charity Council, this annual event presents charities in Singapore with two sets of awards: Charity Governance Awards (CGA) and Charity Transparency Awards (CTA). The number of charities recognised for the CTA saw an increase of 20 compared to the previous year, and the highest since the awards were introduced in 2016.

2 Guest-of-Honour Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, said, “Charities play a key role in building a caring and inclusive Singapore. Good governance and disclosure practices in charities give the public confidence that their donations are put to purposeful use. I am therefore gratified to note that more charities are adopting good disclosure and governance practices. I commend the winners, and encourage all charities to continue upholding a high standard of governance. Together, let us work hand in hand to grow Singapore’s culture of care.”

### Charity Governance Awards

3 Silver Ribbon (Singapore), Caregivers Alliance Limited and Assisi Hospice won the CGA in the small, medium and large charity categories respectively. The CGA represents the highest honours for charities in governance. Another four charities were also commended for their good governance practices in specific areas such as Clarity of Strategy, Operational Efficiency, as well as Governance and Management. (Please refer to Annex A for the list of award winners.)

### Charity Transparency Awards

4 Out of the 67 charities that were conferred the CTA, 15 are small charities, i.e. with gross annual receipts < \$1 M. This is almost double the number of small charity recipients last year (8 winners). This is laudable as small charities often have limited manpower and resources to run its operations, and these charities have performed well despite their constraints. Among the 15 small charity CTA winners, 6 are receiving the awards for the first time.

5 CTA is an annual assessment that recognises charities who communicate information to their stakeholders in a transparent and timely manner. The increase in the number of charities receiving the CTA, reflects the increasing emphasis charities place on the importance of good transparency and governance practices.

6 Dr Gerard Ee, Chairman of the Charity Council, said, “I am heartened to see more charities, especially the smaller ones, being recognised for their efforts in disclosure and accountability. I hope the successes of these small charities will encourage fellow charities in the pursuit of good governance.”

Enclosed:

Annex A – CGA and CTA Winners 2019

Annex B – Quotes from winners of CTA and CGA Winners

Annex C – About the Charity Governance Awards and the CGA Judging Panel

Annex D – About the Charity Transparency Awards

Annex E – Number of CGA and CTA Winners since 2016

For media enquiries, please contact:

Ms Joyce Poon

Senior Manager, Corporate Communications Division

Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth

Contact Number: 6837 8433

Email: Joyce\_POON@mccy.gov.sg

**ANNEX A – LIST OF CHARITY TRANSPARENCY AND GOVERNANCE AWARDS 2019 WINNERS**

**List of Charity Governance Awards 2019 Winners**

<b>Charity</b>	<b>Award Type</b>
Assisi Hospice	Main category winner (Large)
Caregivers Alliance Limited	Main category winner (Medium)
Silver Ribbon (Singapore)	Main category winner (Small)
The Community Foundation of Singapore	Special Commendation Award – Governance and Management
ARC Children's Centre Co Limited	Special Commendation Award – Operational Efficiency
Viriya Community Services	Special Commendation Award – Clarity of Strategy
O'Joy Care Services	Special Commendation Award – Operational Efficiency

## List of Charity Transparency Awards 2019 Winners

*Arranged in alphabetical order*

### (A) Small Charities (gross annual receipts < \$1 M)

S/N	Charity Name	Sector
1	Art Outreach Singapore Limited	Arts & Heritage
2	Children's Wishing Well	Social & Welfare
3	Clarity Singapore Limited	Social & Welfare
4	Filos Community Services Ltd.	Social & Welfare
5	Haemophilia Society of Singapore	Health
6	Lycee Francais Development Fund	Education
7	Mindset Care Limited	Health
8	Nature Society (Singapore)	Others
9	O'Joy Care Services	Social & Welfare
10	Silver Ribbon (Singapore)	Health
11	Touch International Ltd.	Others
12	Triathlon Association of Singapore	Sports
13	Volleyball Association of Singapore	Sports
14	Wildlife Reserves Singapore Conservation Fund	Others
15	Woodbridge Hospital Charity Fund	Health

### (B) Medium Charities (gross annual receipts between \$1 M and \$10 M)

S/N	Charity Name	Sector
1	ARC Children's Centre Co Limited	Social & Welfare
2	Bright Hill Evergreen Home	Health
3	Caregivers Alliance Limited	Social & Welfare
4	Club Rainbow (Singapore)	Health
5	Home Nursing Foundation	Health
6	New Hope Community Services	Social & Welfare
7	Riding for the Disabled Association of Singapore	Social & Welfare
8	RSVP Singapore The Organisation of Senior Volunteers	Social & Welfare
9	Shared Services for Charities Limited	Others
10	Singapore Association for Mental Health	Health
11	Singapore Repertory Theatre Ltd	Arts & Heritage
12	Singapore Sailing Federation	Sports
13	Singapore Swimming Association	Sports
14	St. John's Home For Elderly Persons	Social & Welfare
15	The Substation Ltd	Arts & Heritage
16	Touch Family Services Limited	Social & Welfare
17	Viriya Community Services	Social & Welfare
18	Yellow Ribbon Fund (YRF)	Social & Welfare

**(C) Large Charities (gross annual receipts \$10 M or more)**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Charity Name</b>	<b>Sector</b>
1	AMKFSC Community Services Ltd.	Social & Welfare
2	Asian Women's Welfare Association	Social & Welfare
3	Assisi Hospice	Health
4	Association of Muslim Professionals	Others
5	Care Corner Singapore Ltd	Social & Welfare
6	Caritas Singapore Community Council Limited	Others
7	Catholic Welfare Services, Singapore	Social & Welfare
8	CRU Asia Limited	Religious
9	Dover Park Hospice	Health
10	Dyslexia Association of Singapore	Education
11	Gardens by the Bay	Others
12	HCA Hospice Care	Health
13	Lions Home for the Elders	Health
14	Methodist Welfare Services	Social & Welfare
15	Metta Welfare Association	Social & Welfare
16	Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS)	Social & Welfare
17	Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts	Arts & Heritage
18	National Council of Social Service	Social & Welfare
19	National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre	Others
20	NTUC-U Care Fund	Social & Welfare
21	Ren Ci Hospital	Health
22	SATA CommHealth	Health
23	Singapore Anglican Community Services	Social & Welfare
24	Singapore Cancer Society	Health
25	Singapore Children's Society	Social & Welfare
26	Singapore Institute of Technology	Education
27	SPD	Social & Welfare
28	Sree Narayana Mission (Singapore)	Social & Welfare
29	The Community Foundation of Singapore	Others
30	The Esplanade Co Ltd	Arts & Heritage
31	The National Kidney Foundation	Health
32	Touch Community Services Limited	Social & Welfare
33	Young Men's Christian Association of Singapore	Social & Welfare
34	Young Women's Christian Association of Singapore	Social & Welfare

**ANNEX B – QUOTES FROM 2019 WINNERS OF CTA AND CGA WINNERS**

<b>Award type &amp; winner</b>	<b>Attributed to</b>	<b>Quote</b>
<p>Assisi Hospice</p> <p><b>Charity Governance Award (Large)</b></p>	<p>Ms Anita Fam Chairman, Assisi Hospice</p>	<p>Good governance is the foundation for Assisi Hospice to achieve excellent standards in how we deliver palliative care to our community. This can only be done if there is full alignment between board and management in understanding our mission, as well as our strengths and weaknesses.</p> <p>Underscoring this is the deep sense of mutual respect which the board and management has for each other and the recognition of each other's roles.</p>
<p>Caregivers Alliance Limited</p> <p><b>Charity Governance Award (Medium)</b></p>	<p>Mr Tim Lee, Executive Director, Caregivers Alliance Limited</p>	<p>Caregiving is a long journey, but we want to walk every step of the way alongside caregivers. Together with a compassionate Board of Directors, committed staff and volunteers, and caring partners, we can build a community that makes a difference.</p>
<p>Silver Ribbon (Singapore)</p> <p><b>Charity Governance Award (Small)</b></p>	<p>Ms Ellen Lee, JP, PBM President, Silver Ribbon (Singapore)</p>	<p>Singaporeans, by and large, are very compassionate people as shown by the increasingly huge amounts of money donated to charities each year. Singaporeans instinctively trust our charities because they know that the Singapore Government demands strict compliance of charity laws, ensure incorruptibility, honesty and integrity of all charitable organizations, their board and staff. Donations received will usually be used for the needy and are properly accounted for through robust and regular auditing.</p> <p>Hence, it is critical for small charities like us with limited resources to self-regulate, to maintain high integrity and competence while we carry out our mission to benefit our targeted group. We will always stay vigilant, relevant and transparent as a trusted charity.</p>

## **ANNEX C - ABOUT THE CHARITY GOVERNANCE AWARDS**

The annual Charity Governance Awards (CGA) recognises charities that have adopted the highest standards of governance, in line with the Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs.

The CGA aims to promote good governance in the charity sector by acknowledging the excellent work of charities, while inspiring others to emulate their best practices.

It was first launched by the Charity Council in 2012, and currently in its seventh year. There was a hiatus in 2015 to review its value proposition. Following the review, only CTA winners will qualify as entrants for CGA given that transparency and good disclosure practices are important aspects of good governance.

### **Eligibility Criteria for CGA**

On top of the eligibility criteria for CTA, charities must meet the following to qualify for the CGA assessment:

- Be a shortlisted CTA winner to qualify as a pre-finalist;
- Not be a main CGA category winner in the past 3 years;
- Have complied with the Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs based on the latest GEC.

Charities will then undergo a rigorous CGA assessment conducted by an independent assessing body. In 2019, the independent assessor is Ernst & Young (EY). Only one charity from each category will be recognised as the main category winner. Award winners for the Small, Medium and Large Charity Governance Award categories will each receive a certificate, plaque and \$10,000.

Charities with exemplary practices in particular areas of governance will be conferred with the Special Commendation Awards. Special Commendation Award winners will be presented with a certificate and plaque.

### **Award Categories**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Gross Annual Receipts (in the 2 immediate preceding years)</b>
<b>Small</b>	Less than \$1 million
<b>Medium</b>	\$1million to less than \$10million
<b>Large</b>	\$10million and above

For more information about the CGA assessment process, please refer to the “CGA Assessment Guide” co-developed with EY and issued by the Charity Council on the Charity Council website (<http://www.charitycouncil.org.sg>).

### **About the CGA 2019 Judging Panel**

The independent five-member judging panel are from diverse sectors including accounting, audit, banking, law and grant making. All of them have a wealth of relevant experience in the field of governance.

For CGA 2019, our judges are:

- Ms Angeline Chin, Head of Global Community Impact Asia Pacific, Johnson and Johnson
- Mr Neo Sing Hwee, Managing Director, Head of Operations System & Control, Mapletree Investment Pte Ltd
- Mr R. Dhinakaran, Managing Director, Jay Gee Melwani Group of Companies
- Mr Robson Lee, Partner, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
- Mr Tay Woon Teck, Managing Director, RSM Risk Advisory



## **ANNEX D - ABOUT THE CHARITY TRANSPARENCY AWARDS**

The Charity Council introduced the Charity Transparency Awards (CTA) in 2016. The CTA recognises charities with good disclosure practices, recommended under the Charity Transparency Framework (CTF). The CTF is closely aligned to the Code of Governance for Charities and Institutions of a Public Character (IPCs).

CTA winners will be presented with a Certificate.

### **Eligibility Criteria for CTA**

To be eligible for the assessment, charities must:

- Be a registered charity and/or an Institution of a Public Character (IPC) which has been in operation in Singapore for at least three years;
- Have submitted their annual reports, financial statements and GECs for the two immediate preceding financial years, with the later year's submission being an on time submission (i.e. 6 months from the end of the charity's financial year); and
- Have gross annual receipts of not less than \$50,000 in the immediate preceding financial year.

Eligible charities will automatically be assessed by a group of independent assessors from Singapore Management University, School of Accountancy, and validated by professionals from the Institute of Internal Auditors Singapore, using publicly available sources of information such as:

- Annual Reports, Financial Statements and Governance Evaluation Checklists (GECs);
- Charities' official websites; and
- Facebook page (if any).

**ANNEX E – NUMBER OF CGA AND CTA WINNERS SINCE 2016**

	<b>No. of CGA Winners</b>	<b>No. of CTA Winners</b>
<b>2016</b>	5 (3 main, 2 SCA)	35
<b>2017</b>	5 (2 main, 3 SCA)	41
<b>2018</b>	7 (3 main, 4 SCA)	47
<b>2019</b>	7 (3 main, 4 SCA)	67