ANNUAL REPORT FY2021

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July 2020 - June 2021





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Message from our National Director



Yong Teck Meng, National Director Habitat for Humanity Singapore



This annual report message must be one of the strangest ones for me to write; but then again, I surely am not the only person who feels this way.

At this writing, we are all in the midst of an unprecedented global pandemic. In the history of mankind, there has not been anything happening at this scale before. The 'World Wars' that we read from the history books are all misnomers because they are confined with mainly the European theatre for World War 1 with the Asia Pacific region added into World War 2. Much of Africa was not involved, and South America was completely out of the picture then. This time around, every single country in the world is involved with the COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic has created too many 'firsts' to mention, like the largest scale global vaccination campaign ever, the fastest ever approval of vaccine candidates, the largest number of face masks produced in the shortest period of time... the list goes on and on.

Like most charities and businesses, we have been hard-hit by the pandemic. Habitat for Humanity is a hands-on movement, so any situation that prevents us from involving volunteers to build, clean, and participate physically cuts into the core of why we exist. Fundraising becomes a real challenge since volunteerinvolvement naturally leads to donation by the individual or the corporate. *(continued on page 4)*

Message from our National Director



Yong Teck Meng, National Director Habitat for Humanity Singapore



At the same time, we exist not to raise funds, but to serve the vulnerable among us. I have always understood that we are poverty-fighters, our work is about achieving goals against the odds anyway. We are people who must find hope in the midst of the dire, light in the midst of darkness, strength in the midst of weaknesses. And we are to bring that to those who need it most - our beneficiaries who surely will bear the brunt of this crisis.

Thankfully, we have you to journey with us. If you are reading this, you must be one of us - supporting, encouraging, participating, giving. Like everyone else, we have been constantly adapting our approach and operations, moving onto cyberspace more, creating new experiences like our new Virtual Village Batam Build, on-line seminars and upcoming Video-blogs. Come what may, we will be here, and we will persevere. We know that God is with us, and He will see us through. He will send you and others to journey alongside us, so that every person that He has placed in our pathway will receive the help that he or she needs.

Prayerfully, this pandemic will be over soon, and we will get to meet up again, to build, clean and participate in yet another Habitat transformation activity. In the meantime, let us keep safe and work together in whatever way we can so that the vulnerable among us will be protected and helped.

Our Vision

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Our Mission

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.







About Us

Habitat for Humanity Singapore is part of an international Christian housing charity that seeks to eliminate poverty housing worldwide.

Convicted that safe and affordable housing provides a path out of poverty, we have been working alongside low-income communities to increase their access to improved living conditions.

Since 2004, Habitat Singapore regularly sends volunteer teams to build decent and affordable houses across Asia-Pacific.

Locally, we provide intensive home-cleaning for vulnerable individuals and families so they can have a safe & sanitary place to call home.

In March 2021, we celebrated 17 wonderful years of service and ministry.





Our Senior Leadership



Our Patron Mr. S. Dhanabalan

Habitat for Humanity Singapore is very proud to have Mr. S. Dhanabalan (ex-Chairman, Temasek Holdings; ex-Cabinet Minister) as our patron.

Mr. Dhanabalan is an active Habitat volunteer who participates in Habitat builds and events throughout the year. He continues to be a great source of inspiration and wisdom for many Habitat staff and volunteers.

Our Senior Advisor Mr. Philip Ng

Habitat for Humanity Singapore is blessed to have Mr. Philip Ng on board as our Senior Advisor. Philip has been supporting Habitat's events and encourages many others to work alongside us to fight poverty in Singapore and in this region.



The Board of Directors

Mr. Foo Chai Yee (Chairman) **Director**. DP Architects Appointed 14/10/2016

Mr Chan Bing Hung, Ivan CEO, Anxa Holdings Appointed 20/2/2018

Ms. Christine Lee Yip Yin Regional Director, APAC Operations, VisionFund International Appointed 14/10/2016

Ms. Ng Siew Geck, Vincy Vice-President, Human Resources, **AMCOR Flexibles Asia Pacific** Appointed 28/2/2017

Board

Habitat for Humanity Singapore is governed by a Board of Directors and headed by our National Director.

Mr. Choo Chin Tuan Theodore (Vice-Chairman) Head, Corporate Marketing, Singapore Management University Appointed 1/10/2016

Ms. Sharon Cheah Ui-Hoon Associate Director, Kreab Singapore Appointed 20/2/2018

Mr. Thomas I im Founder & CEO, TLC Events Pte Ltd Appointed 29/3/2019

Mr. Timothy Paul Nichols Vice-President, Project Management, Pontiac Land Group Appointed 1/10/2016

Mr. Lim Cheng Huang (Treasurer) **Business Consultant.** Avodah Business Services Appointed 1/10/2016

Ms Adeline Khoo **Operations & Administrative Manager**, Single Family Office Appointed 29/3/2019

Ms. Usha Murli Menon Executive Chairman, Usha Menon Management Consultancy (Asia) Appointed 1/10/2016

Mr. Joseph Junior Scaria **Resource Development Director,** Habitat for Humanity Asia-Pacific Resigned in FY2021

Mr. Tan Willie Deputy Head, **Advisors** Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office

Mr. Daniel See Han Chiang Associate General Counsel, Avnet Technology Solutions, Asia Pacific

Mr. Liew Tian Seng Alvin Senior Economist. United Overseas Bank



The Board of Directors

A total of five Board meetings and one AGM were held during the financial year. The following sets out the individual Board member's attendance at the meetings:

No.	Name	28-Jul-20	15-Sep-20	22 Sept 2020 AGM	29-Dec-20	30-Mar-21	29-Jun-20
1	Foo Chai Yee	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
2	Theodore Choo Chin Tuan	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
3	Ivan Chan	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
4	Sharon Cheah Ui Hoon	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х
5	Adeline Khoo	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х
6	Christine Lee Yip Yin	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	
7	Lim Cheng Huang	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
8	Thomas Lim	Х			Х	Х	Х
9	Usha Murli Menon	Х	Х		Х	Х	
10	Vincy Ng	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
11	Timothy Paul Nichols	Х		Х		Х	Х
12	Joseph Scaria	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Resigned

Conflict of Interest Policy

All Board members and staff are required to comply with the charity's conflict of interest policy. The Board has put in place documented procedures for Board members and staff to declare actual or potential conflicts of interests on a regular and need-to basis. Board members also abstain and do not participate in decision-making on matters where they have a conflict of interest.



How We Work

At Habitat Singapore, we rely on the generous support of the public, our corporate partners, grants and foundations to fund our work. Donations are received via the public through regular and ad-hoc giving and through management fees for overseas house-building trips.

We adhere strictly to the relevant policies and laws relating to public fundraising, in accordance with the Charities Act, Singapore. Likewise, we comply with Habitat for Humanity International's requirements articulated in the covenantal MOU signed.

Habitat for Humanity Singapore does not solicit for funding from organisations that are associated with tobacco or the gambling industries.





Financial Accountability & Accreditation

Habitat Singapore was set up on 12 February 2002 as a company limited by guarantee. It was officially opened on 11 March 2004 and registered as a charity on 27th April 2004.

Charity Registration Number: 200201617W

Triple-Layer Accountability

Local: Habitat for Humanity Singapore's annual financial audit is conducted by Helmi Talib & Co. Habitat Singapore is also subjected to the financial supervision by the Commissioner of Charities, and complies with the requirements of the Code of Governance for Charities and Institutions of a Public Character (IPCs).

Regional: Quarterly financial reports for financial indicators review are also submitted to Habitat's Asia Pacific office to ensure financial and operational practices conform to Habitat International's policies.

International: At the highest level, all Habitat National Offices are also monitored and subjected to auditing by Habitat's headquarters in Atlanta, USA.



A Year in Review



labitat for Humanity®

Singapore

"Stay Home, Stay Safe."

This common advice can prove to be a challenge for vulnerable homeowners who live in unsanitary and unsafe dwellings.

The need for decent housing for everyone has never been more pressing then during the COVID-19 pandemic. While the year has proven challenging, the Habitat work must continue.

Habitat Singapore is dedicated to continue serving housing needs amidst the pandemic.



UnLitter Red Dot has gone online!



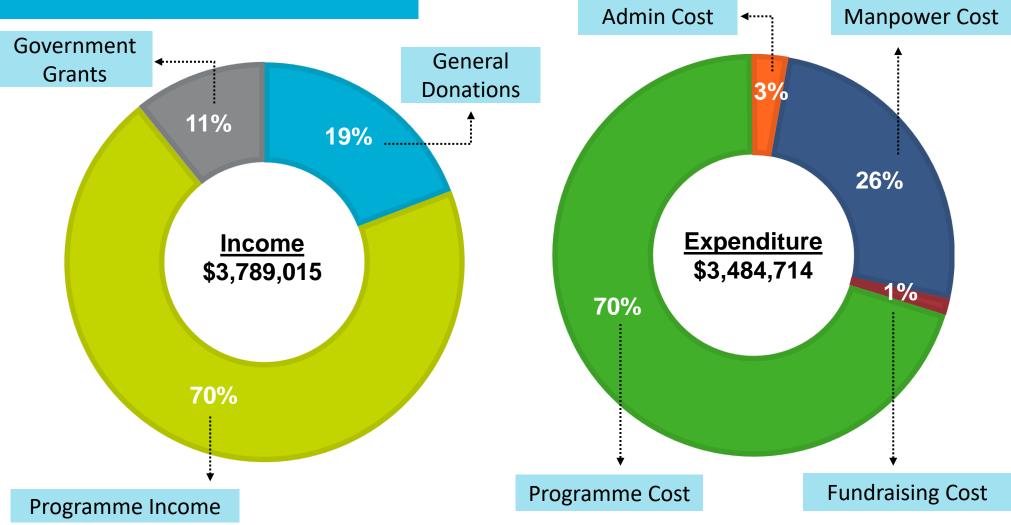
Project HomeWorks has been kept running by dedicated staff and regular volunteers despite Covid-19 restrictions!



Generous house sponsors have kept the work going even as participation donations from volunteers have paused!

Summary Financial Performance

For FY2021, we have 1 staff with annual remuneration in the band of \$100K-\$150K. There are no staff related to Executive head or any governing board member.



For more information on the charity's major financial transactions and purpose of the charitable assets held, please refer to our Financial Statements.

A Year in Review: FY2021 Impact



About **2000** volunteers mobilised across Singapore and the region

SINGAPORE

OVERSEAS





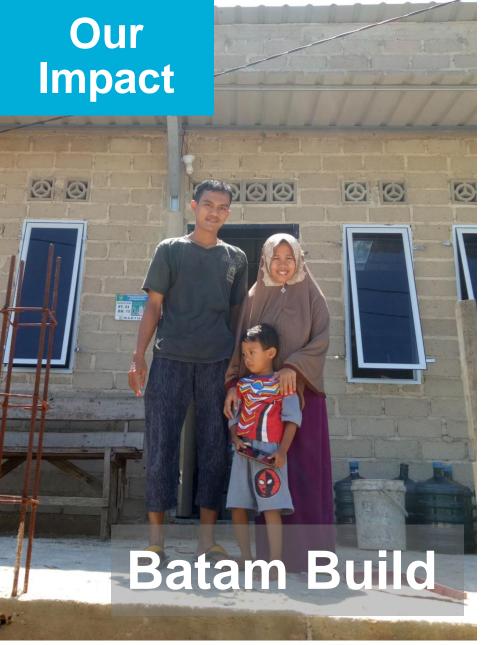
Overseas Programmes

Martin Tor



We build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

Habitat ter Remanity



Since 2004, Habitat Singapore has been mobilising volunteers to experience our life-changing work through **Global Village** building trips in neighbouring nations.

The **Batam Build**, designed as a shorter alternative 1-to-2 day build trip within our Global Village programme, started in 2014 and has been sending volunteers to Kabil Village on a weekly basis.

While Global Village volunteer trips had to take a backseat in FY21 due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, Habitat Singapore was still able to support the <u>building of 19 new</u> <u>houses</u>, <u>provision of clean water</u> <u>connection for 17 families</u> and the <u>giving</u> <u>out of 70 hygiene kits</u> in Batam thanks to our long-term corporate supporters.

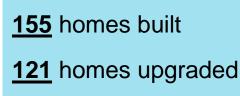




Our **Grace for Cambodia Project** is a 5-year project benefitting thousands of people (many of whom are HIV-positive and/or disabled from landmine explosions).

Thanks to the generosity of Mr Philip Ng, the Grace for Cambodia Project is present in Battambang, Phnom Penh and Siem Reap to improve the living conditions of families living in sub-standard housing.

In addition to building and improving houses, this project provides access to clean water, hygiene & sanitation training, house maintenance training, financial and family planning education.



24 homes repaired

<u>18</u> villages trained in disaster mitigation



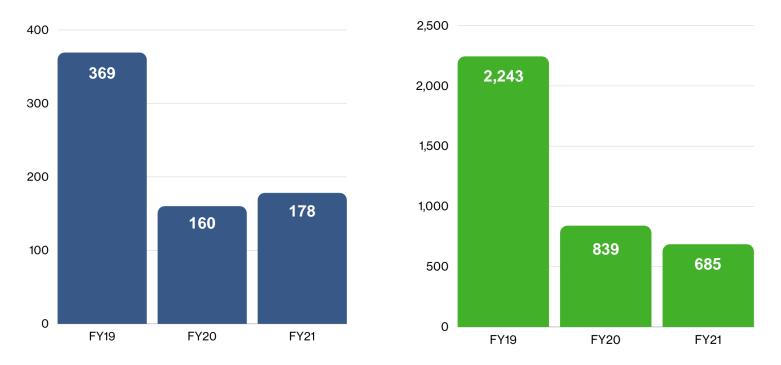




Our Impact

Project HomeWorks

No. of families served by year



While COVID-19 safety guidelines in FY20/21 restricted the number of volunteers we could deploy, we started ramping up Project HomeWorks efforts in FY21.

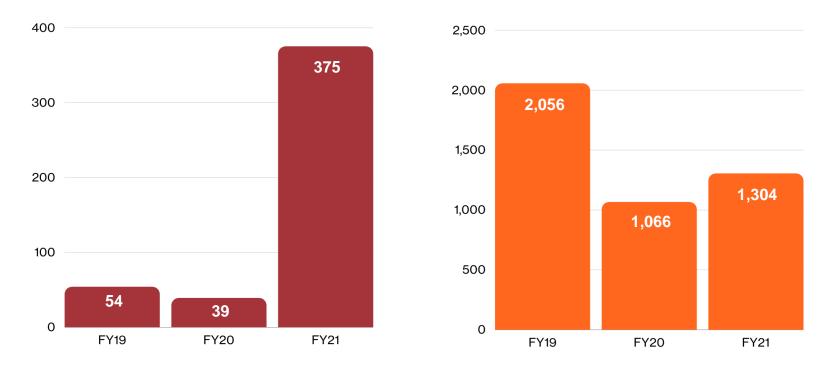


No. of volunteers by year

Our Impact UnL

UnLitter Red Dot

No. of estates cleaned by year



While volunteers were unable to gather in FY20/21, bringing UnLitter Red Dot online in FY21 allowed us to clean more estates concurrently during the virtual sessions.



No. of volunteers by year

Over the last 15 years, Habitat Singapore has worked with vulnerable elderly and families to improve the safety and sanitation of their homes through **Project HomeWorks**.

The homeowners we serve have little financial means and/or social support, and health issues. They also typically live in one- and two-room rental flats.

Volunteers help homeowners declutter, paint, and clean homes as well as assemble furniture. Habitat staff work with social workers and vendors such as pest control companies to ensure a wholistic approach.

Due to COVID-19 safety guidelines, fewer volunteers were allowed in each home. As such, 72 homes required multiple sessions.

Despite COVID-19, <u>685 volunteers served</u> <u>178 families over 300 sessions</u> in FY21. <u>24% of volunteers</u> served more than once.





Mdm Lai found herself living alone in her 3-room flat in Toa Payoh when her husband passed away over 30 years ago.

Since then, items started accumulating in her home – a result of impulse emotional buying in addition to worsening eyesight and arthritis which left her too weak to clear the mess.

The state of the house spiralled out of control where Mdm Lai had to crawl over mountains of things to get around.

Habitat Singapore mobilized multiple volunteer teams to declutter the home. Today, Mdm Lai can move around her space freely, and even has her own reading room to relax in.

It took <u>6 Project HomeWorks sessions</u> and the support of <u>6 volunteer teams</u> between January to May 2021 to rehabilitate Mdm Lai's home.

From Hoarded to Home Again



Impact

Story

Project HomeWorks is also powered by an indispensable group of regular volunteers we call **Champions**.

These dedicated individuals give their time regularly to serve alongside our staff as leaders for the many groups of volunteers who come through our doors.

Champions go through detailed training workshops and take on sensitive cases that ad-hoc volunteers may not be equipped to handle. They are an invaluable resource for our lean team.

In the face of COVID-19 restrictions where we were unable to open slots for ad-hoc volunteers, our champions stepped up as an anchoring force to support the Project HomeWorks cause.

Further restrictions constraining group size to 2 meant multiple sessions and full dedication on their part. Kudos to our amazing Champions!

Our Impact Project **HomeWorks** Champions



As one of our longest serving volunteers, Diong Bee Chu has volunteered with Habitat Singapore since 2009! She has been involved in an impressive range of Habitat programmes – Bare Your Sole, multiple builds across the region, and most notably as a Project HomeWorks Champion.

Having a knack for engaging with youth due to the nature of her professional life, she was assigned to lead and mentor volunteer student groups.

This year, Diong stepped up to form 2-man teams with our other champions to continue serving vulnerable elderly during the pandemic. Diong's dedication saw her visit the same senior 8 times within a month just to get the job done.

"If anyone can lend them a hand, the only question to ask is – why not? It may not seem like a big deal to rehabilitate one small flat since there are probably many more on the waiting list. But to the homeowner, it makes a 100% difference to their lives immediately."



Champion Feature: Diong Bee Chu





Littering continues to be a perennial issue year after year. Singapore has now become a 'clean-ed' city with its 70,000 cleaners servicing Singapore's population of five million.

We desire to see a country that takes ownership of its shared spaces.

Through **UnLitter**, we seek to start new conversations with volunteers about what it means to care for one's living space beyond the four corners of our homes.

This year, as volunteers are unable to gather during the pandemic, we introduced **BlockWalk**, a monthly virtual clean-up opportunity conducted over Zoom.

In FY21, **<u>1,304 volunteers</u>** joined us to clean up **<u>375 neighbourhoods</u>**.





Singapore

Habitat Singapore believes in nurturing youth to give back to the community in a meaningful, informed and sustained fashion.

Our dedicated youth staff mentor leads youths in various volunteering, advocacy and fundraising endeavours.

Youth may choose to join us via an existing Campus Chapter in their school, start a new chapter in their JC or university or as an independent group or volunteer.

Our 6 Campus Chapters:

- Dunman High School
- Hwa Chong Institution
- **Raffles Institution Junior College**
- Singapore American School
- Stamford American International School
- Yale-NUS College



Our Impact

Independent Youth Chapters







Project Homerun Youth Corps Leaders Programme





After witnessing the state of a family's home during a Project HomeWorks session done with their school, Victoria Junior College students Dora and Heather, along with schoolmates Izza and Sin Yu, kickstarted **Project Hiraeth** to raise funds.

The social media campaign included an online concert called "HERE" which featured celebrities like Nathan Hartono, Sukki Singapure from Singapore Social, musician Gen Neo and Fauzi from The Smart Local, as well as an ongoing lucky draw fundraiser with small businesses.

As of Nov 2020, the campaign has raised **<u>\$9,675</u>** (out of the \$10,000 goal).





Impact Story

Project Homerun

Project Homerun is a youth chapter started by university undergraduates Ng Wei, Chuan Kai and En Ning in July 2020 who hope to rally and empower fellow youths to make a difference in the lives of low-income and elderly homeowners in Singapore, one home at a time.

Having already served 19 HDB units island wide through Project HomeWorks, Project Homerun seeks to serve about 50 units by FY22. In addition, they also conduct biannual bake sales on their social media platforms to fundraise for the Habitat cause.





Fundraising Efforts



Sew Much Love is a new, all-year-long initiative by Habitat Singapore to co-create **Agape Blankets** with our supporters, for low-income families sheltering against colder seasons around the region or vulnerable seniors in Singapore feeling the strain of social isolation.

Supporters make a small \$20 donation to decorate a fabric square which will be transformed into a one-of-a-kind Agape Blanket by our sewing volunteers.

Completed Agape Blankets will be sent to vulnerable families all around the region and donations raised will fund Project HomeWorks efforts.

Since inception in Feb 2020, we have raised over **\$40,000 for Project HomeWorks** and brought to life **16 quilts** with our corporate partners, the public and dedicated sewing volunteers.



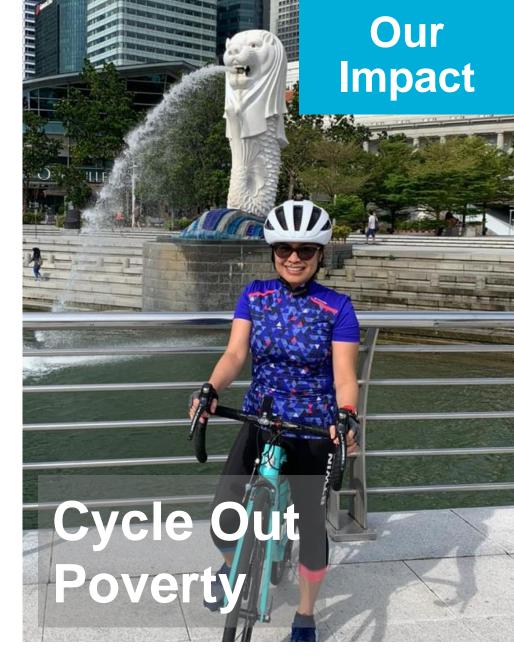


In conjunction with the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, Habitat Singapore launched **Cycle Out Poverty 2020** to raise funds for the Batam Build and educate participants about the various interrelated factors which perpetuate poverty.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Cycle Out Poverty 2020 was conducted as a virtual event, where participants had to raise funds and complete a target distance accumulated between 17-25 October.

Upon hitting the respective fundraising goal and target distance of the category signed up for, participants were awarded a Finisher Medal.

<u>38 cyclists</u> clocked in <u>more than 25,000km</u> and <u>raised SGD 24,000</u> for vulnerable families to build their Habitat homes in Batam.





Here at Habitat Singapore, we affectionately call our monthly donors **HopeBuilders**. Their commitment and generosity towards our work and the families we serve is a source of motivation for us especially during the pandemic.

Our HopeBuilder programme has grown from strength to strength over this FY to 300 monthly givers, and we were able to exceed our annual HopeBuilder goal of raising \$100,000.

Moving forward, we hope to grow this special part of the Habitat family so we may continue to operate sustainably.





The Year Ahead

Moving forward in FY2022, Habitat Singapore will continue creatively pivot through the COVID-19 pandemic and improve our programmes to better serve our homeowners. We will also continue to develop innovative fundraising methods to power the work we do.



Project HomeWorks

We hope to serve even more homeowners in FY2022 despite the COVID-19 restrictions. One main goal is to improve the efficiency of our processes so that we can serve more over a shorter period.



UnLitter Red Dot

We will continue to champion the importance of clean communities virtually through BlockWalk. We hope to open physical sessions once guidelines become less stringent.



<u>Builds</u>

We will continue to support the good work done in Kabil Village, Batam by engaging generous house sponsors. The Grace for Cambodia Project will also continue.

Get Involved!

Donate

As a non-governmental organisation, we rely on the generosity of supporters. Join our HopeBuilder programme and see the difference you can make as a monthly donor.



https://www.habitat.org.sg/donate

Advocate

Tell others about our cause by sharing our stories and the need for decent housing. You may even fundraise for us on special occasions like birthdays, or through your hobbies like cycling.

<u>Volunteer</u>

Subscribe to our newsletter and socials feeds to find out about our volunteering opportunities. From painting to building & community clean-ups, there is something for everyone.



https://www.habitat.org.sg/support



https://www.habitat.org.sg/our-work



Get Involved!

For Corporates

Looking for an exciting project to help a community overseas or a meaningful way to engage your staff? Let Habitat help you achieve your CSR goals. Email info@habitatorg.sg today!

For Schools

Enhance your values in action or student leadership curriculum with hands-on learning and talks by our staff. Consider starting a chapter to nurture empathy in your students.

For Churches

As a Christian organisation, we welcome churches to serve with us, invite us to share about our ministry and uphold us through prayer and/or tithing support.

Subscribe to our Mailing List for the latest updates

https://www.habitat.org.sg/new-subscribers





Our Supporters

A heartfelt thank you to all our supporters. Together, we can work towards a world where everyone has a decent place to live in.

- 3M Innovation Singapore Pte Ltd
- Allscripts Healthcare IT (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.
- Astute Tax Pte Ltd
- B. LINE CREATIONS
- BloomBack Pte. Ltd.
- Bloomberg Singapore Pte. Ltd
- Canadian International School
- Catholic High School
- Clementi Town Secondary School
- Conrad Centennial SG
- Definitive Communications
- Dolby Laboratories, Inc.
- Dunman High School (DHS) Habitat Campus Chapter
- Evorich Manufacturing Pte Ltd
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer Singapore Pte. Ltd.
- Gift-it-Forward Pte. Ltd.

- Gracefield Foundation Ltd.
- Great Eastern Holdings Limited
- Habasit Far East Pte Ltd
- Hempel (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.
- Hilton International Asia Pacific Pte Ltd
- HL Corporate Services Pte Ltd
- Ho Bee Foundation
- Hwa Chong Institution (College Section)
- Hwa Chong Institution (HCI) Habitat
- Campus Chapter
- Jurong Pioneer Junior College
- Katong Presbytarian Church
- KPMG LLP
- Leplay Design
- National Junior College
- NetApp, Inc.
- NTUC Fairprice Foundation Ltd
- Orchard Parksuites Pte Ltd
- Owens Corning Singapore pte Itd



Our Supporters

A heartfelt thank you to all our supporters. Together, we can work towards a world where everyone has a decent place to live in.

- Peak Hospitality Solutions Pte Ltd
- Presbyterian High School
- Private Collection
- Procter & Gamble (Singapore) Pte Ltd
- Project Hiraeth
- Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP
- Republic Polytechnic
- Republic Polytechnic LLP
- Riverhub Pte Ltd
- S. C. Johnson & Son Pte Ltd
- Sadhu Vaswani Mission
- SAP Asia Pte. Ltd.
- Selva Pte Ltd
- SI Design Pte Ltd
- SIA Engineering Company (SIAEC)
- Silversea Asset Management Pte Ltd

- Singapore Straits Wine Company Pte Ltd
- South32 Marketing Pte Ltd
- St. Joseph's Institution (Senior School)
- Standard Life Employee Services
- Surbana Jurong International Holdings Pte. Ltd
- Temasek Poly
- TIBCO Software Inc.
- Tong Heng Delicacies Pte Ltd
- Transurban Properties Pte. Ltd.
- Twilio Inc.
- visit.org
- Wells Fargo Bank, National Association
- Widos Technology (Asia Pacific) Pte Ltd
- Woh Hup (Private) Limited
- Xinmin Secondary School
- Zendesk Singapore Pte. Ltd



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instagram.com/ habitatsingapore

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linkedin.com/company/ habitat-for-humanitysingapore

<u>t.me/</u> HabitatforHumanitySG







We build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

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