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## Message from our National Director



Julilley

Yong Teck Meng, National Director Habitat for Humanity Singapore

Whenever I am asked to write a foreword for our annual report, I would realize again that every single year seems to zoom by in a manner that defies comprehension. This is something we all know, but few can truly appreciate the significance of the passage of time to the individual. Every second passed is a second that will never return again; and for the individual, one less second to use in the lifespan that one has.

This is one of the reasons why Moses prayed and asked God in Psalm 90: 12 "So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom". The purpose of that wisdom must surely be for us to make full use of the days we have on earth. And there is really no better way than to make sure that we leave this world a better place than when we first arrived.

To that end, I have been privileged to have had the opportunity to work with many people who share the same aspirations. Through the global family of Habitat for Humanity, I am able to walk this journey with many donors, volunteers, colleagues and co-workers around the world, working to make sure that time and resources are made use of wisely as we help people made in the image and likeness of God.

Thank you one and all for making a difference. And with God's continual blessings, may we all continue to enjoy this journey for many years to come.



## **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.





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 2022, we celebrated 18 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

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

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. Ng Siew Geck, Vincy Vice-President, Human Resources, AMCOR Flexibles Asia Pacific Appointed 28/2/2017 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 Lim
Founder & CEO, TLC Events Pte Ltd
Appointed 29/3/2019

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



## The Board of Directors

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#### Mr. Timothy Chua Wee Kiong

Advisor and Managing Director, Smart Mulia Group Appointed 31/03/2022

#### Mr. Richard Giam

CEO & Founder, Rainmakerz Pte Ltd Appointed 04/05/2022

#### **Mr. Timothy Paul Nichols**

Vice-President, Project Management, Pontiac Land Group Appointed 1/10/2016 \*Exited March 2022

#### Mr. Daniel See Han Chiang

Associate General Counsel, Avnet Technology Solutions, AP Appointed 31/3/2022

#### Ms. Christina Lu

Head APAC, Human Resources, Neste Appointed 04/05/2022

## Mr. Lim Cheng Huang (Treasurer)

Business Consultant, Avodah Business Services Appointed 1/10/2016 \*Exited March 2022

#### Mr. Alvin Liew Tian Seng

Senior Economist, United Overseas Bank Appointed 31/3/2022

#### Ms. Christine Lee Yip Yin

Regional Director, APAC Operations, VisionFund International Appointed 14/10/2016 \*Exited March 2022



## The Board of Directors

A total of 4 Board meetings (including 1 AGM) were held during the financial year. The following sets out the individual Board member's attendance at the meetings:

No.	Name	28/9/2021 AGM	21-Dec-21	22-Mar-22	21-Jun-22	Remarks
1	Foo Chai Yee	Х	Х		x	
2	Theodore Choo Chin Tuan	X	Х	X	х	
3	Ivan Chan	Х		X		
4	Sharon Cheah Ui Hoon	X	Х	X	х	
5	Adeline Khoo	Х	Х	Х		
6	Christine Lee Yip Yin	Х	Х	Х	NA	Rotated out March 2022
7	Lim Cheng Huang	Х	Х		NA	Rotated out March 2022
8	Thomas Lim	Х	Х	Х		
9	Usha Murli Menon	X	Х	Х	х	
10	Vincy Ng	Х		X		
11	Timothy Paul Nichols	Х	Х	X	NA	Rotated out March 2022
12	Alvin Liew	NA	NA	NA	х	Appointed March 2022
13	Daniel See	NA	NA	NA		Appointed March 2022
14	Richard Giam	NA	NA	NA	X	Appointed May 2022
15	Christina Maxwell Lu	NA	NA	NA	X	Appointed May 2022
16	Low Wye Yee	NA	NA	NA	X	Appointed May 2022
17	Timothy Chua		X (observer)	X		Appointed March 2022

#### **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 adhoc 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 Fiducia LLP. 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



FY22 was an interesting and volatile year which swung between two opposite ends of the COVID spectrum.

The first half of the year saw yet another tightening of COVID measures which restricted volunteer activities. This time, Habitat Singapore was fully equipped to tackle the challenges with processes in place.

The second half took on a more hopeful note with restrictions easing. As such, we could partner with even more supporters to better solve housing needs.



We were able to hold the Big BlockWalk, our first large-scale event since the pandemic hit

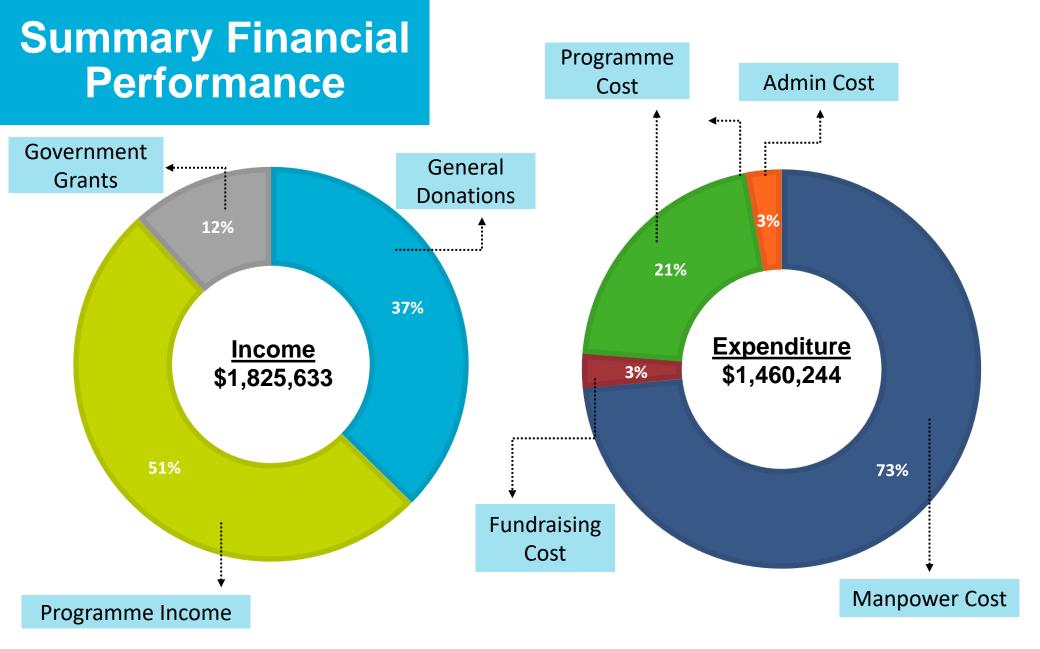


Project HomeWorks was finally opened to full capacity



We have diversified our regular programmes to include additional fundraising and education workshops to further engage supporters

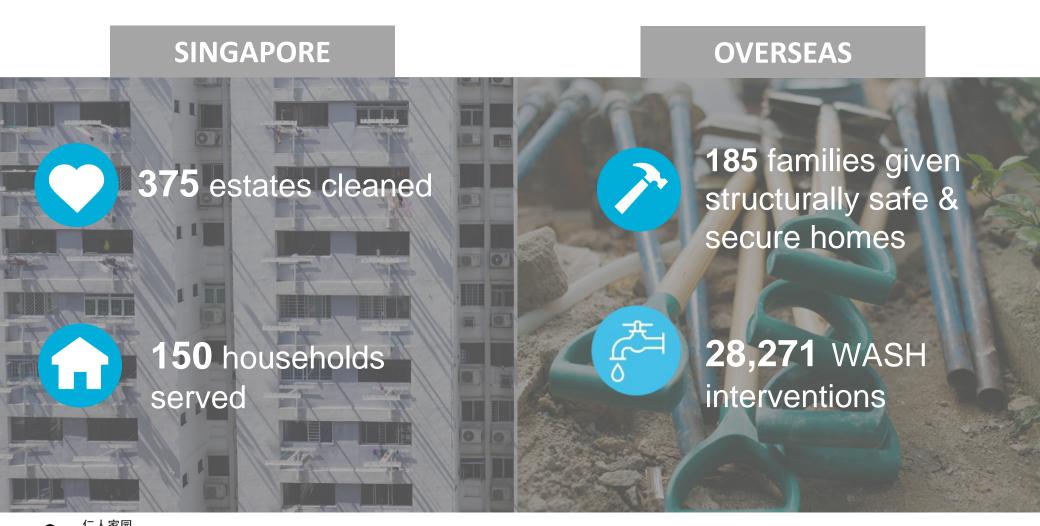




For more information on the charity's major financial transactions and purpose of the charitable assets held, please refer to our Financial Statements.

## A Year in Review: FY2022 Impact













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

**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 on a weekly basis.

We are grateful that despite being unable to send volunteers to Batam, we were still able to support the building of <u>5</u> new houses, provide clean water connection for <u>10</u> families and give out <u>30</u> hygiene kits thanks to our long-term corporate supporters such as P&G and Bloomberg.



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.

Completion date was initially set as FY22, but due to the COVID pandemic, the project will be extended until FY23.

90 homes built

90 homes upgraded

**180** family groups trained in disaster mitigation

28,231 students & residents received WASH education





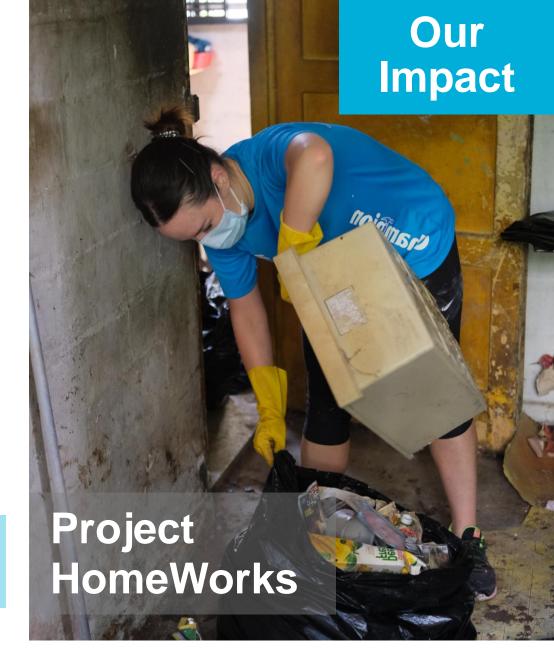


**Project HomeWorks** was launched in Singapore in 2006 in order to improve the living conditions of vulnerable elderly and low-income families people relying on Public Assistance residing and living in public rental flats across the island.

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 holistic approach.

Two unique phenomena defined Project HomeWorks for FY2022. First, there was tightening of COVID-19 measures in the first half due to a rise in cases. Second, we saw an increase in the number of sensitive hoarding cases, which required more sessions per unique homeowner.

Despite volatile circumstances, we successfully served <u>150</u> homeowners over <u>320</u> sessions.





A unique individual who finds joy in self-expression, 69-year-old **Mr. Mohamed** led a fulfilling life with many hobbies when he was younger.

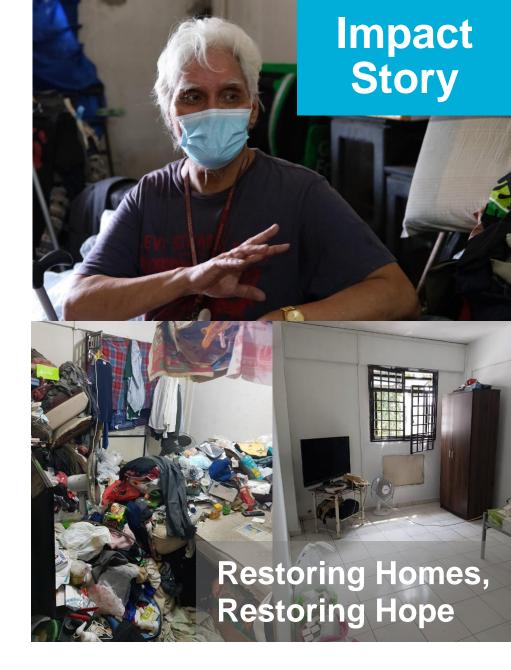
However, sustained injury and the passing of his wife made life become a mixed bag of grief and health challenges.

As years passed, the state of his home deteriorated too – waist-high piles of items accumulated, and his living space was dusty and unkempt.

It was as though life and home were both falling apart.

He finally found the courage to say, "Enough" and worked with Habitat Singapore to rehabilitate his home in 2021.

It took 5 mammoth sessions of decluttering, cleaning and painting to complete the home rehabilitation, but the impact it would have on Mr. Mohamed's life made all the hard work worth it.





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 adhoc 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.





**Mani** has been involved with Habitat's work overseas for a while and decided to serve in Project HomeWorks as he wanted to contribute to the local community too.

After realising he loved the work and gained a lot of satisfaction in partnering homeowners to transform their home, he decided to become a HomeWorks Champion in 2021.

Describing it as a "remarkable" and "lifechanging" experience, Mani shared that every session was memorable in its own way, and he always learns something new each time.

"[Volunteering] makes you humbler and [helps us] appreciate our own life more, after we see how people, either live in their loneliness at old age, endure hardships while young and many more."







Littering continues to be a perennial issue year after year. 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.

In 2021, we diversified to include an online version called BlockWalk where participants could log in, interact with others while picking up litter in their own neighbourhoods to adhere to social distancing rules.

Alongside, as COVID-19 restrictions eased, we also continued physical UnLitter Red Dot sessions with different groups.

In FY21, **1,304 volunteers** joined us to clean up **375 neighbourhoods**.



Held on 28 May 2022, **Big BlockWalk** was the largest virtual community clean-up across Singapore. It was jointly organised with the Singapore Public Hygiene Council and was one of the culminating events for the Keep Clean, Singapore! Campaign.

As an extension of Habitat Singapore's monthly BlockWalks, volunteers were able to connect with others over Zoom while picking litter at their chosen neighbourhoods.

Alongside, there was also a physical contingent of invited guests who picked litter at the Toa Payoh estate. They were treated to live onstage activities and were rallied by Habitat Singapore ambassador, Paul Foster.

This was Habitat Singapore's first large-scale advocacy event since the pandemic.

In total, Big BlockWalk received <u>660</u> registrations, with <u>461</u> attendees.



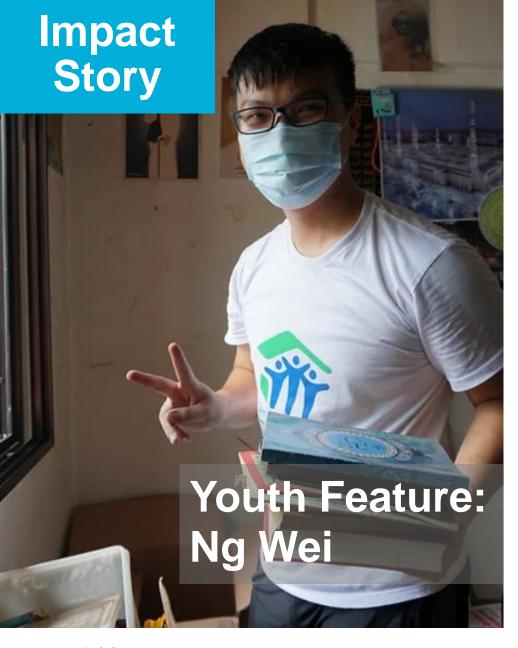
Habitat Singapore believes in nurturing youth to give back to the community in a meaningful, informed and sustained fashion.

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 Campus Chapters:**

- Dunman High School
- Hwa Chong Institution
- Raffles Institution Junior College



**Ng Wei** is a second-year student at NUS Law who has been volunteering with Habitat since 2017. Ever since, he has founded two Habitat Campus Chapters in Hwa Chong Institution (HCI) and in the tertiary universities, empowering other youths to run alongside him in serving the lowincome and elderly in Singapore.

"As much as Singapore provides a lot of social safety nets, many still fall through the gaps and often through no fault of their own. Sometimes we don't realise that volunteering or making donations makes a difference.

However, having since managed two Chapters, I realised that there will always be an important need for volunteers to plug in the gaps and to support one another.

...As youths, I also think it is important to continue inculcating the spirit of giving and contributing to our society which has given us much."



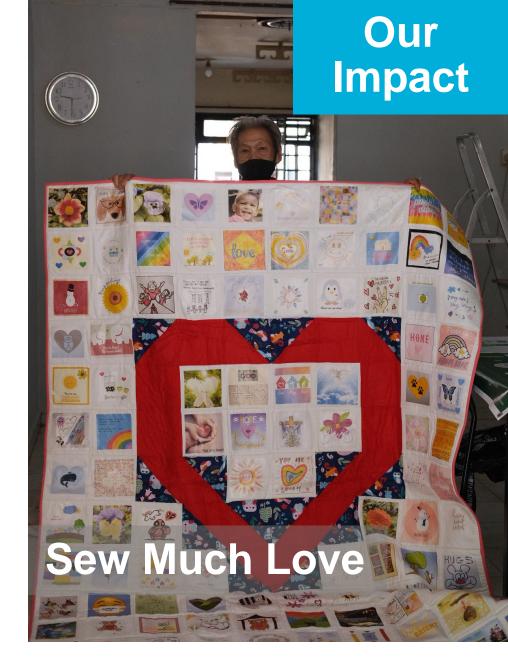


**Sew Much Love** is an all-year-long initiative by Habitat Singapore to co-create **Agape Blankets** with our supporters, for low-income families sheltering against colder seasons around the region or vulnerable seniors in Singapore feeling the strain of social isolation.

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 **\$68,000 for Project HomeWorks** and brought to life **25 quilts** with our corporate partners, the public and dedicated sewing volunteers.





In a bid to find exciting, alternative engagement platforms with our supporters during the uncertainty of the pandemic, Habitat Singapore partnered with multiple creators, subject matter experts and fitness instructors to organize a range of workshops to raise funds for our vulnerable homeowners.

The first of such events, the **Habitat Carnival Fun-Raiser**, held in October 2021 in commemoration of World Habitat Day and the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, saw a curated slate of workshops held both online and in person.

The positive reception from this initiative paved way to other successful events such as the inperson **Floral Pressing Workshops** held in May 2022, in celebration of Mother's Day.

In partnership with our volunteer workshop hosts, a total of over **\$9000** was raised from the various events.



## Fundraising Workshops



As millions of refugees flee violence in Ukraine, Habitat for Humanity is on the ground in four neighboring countries — Poland, Romania, Hungary and Slovakia — helping meet the shelter needs of displaced families. According to the UN, more than 5.2 million of those displaced people have fled into these countries.

In support of the urgent Habitat housing work being done with refugees fleeing into these countries, Habitat Singapore launched an **emergency response fundraiser** which helped fund short-term shelter solutions and more permanent housing interventions. Collectively, Habitat's work supported over 29,000 people during the crisis.

With the help of generous donors in Singapore, Habitat Singapore was able to contribute over **\$12,000** to the crisis intervention.





**#HomeThisChristmas** is Habitat Singapore's annual year-end campaign to support our ongoing programmes on the ground for the following calendar year.

Thanks to our supporters, funds from the #HomeThisChristmas campaigns have been fundamental in empowering Habitat Singapore's work to reach and serve an average of 350 homes a year under Project HomeWorks.

2021's campaign encouraged supporters to keep the Christmas spirit of love and community alight despite COVID disruptions and challenges.

#HomeThisChristmas 2021 raised a total of over **\$47,000** which powered Project HomeWorks.





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 296 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 FY2023, Habitat Singapore is excited to serve more especially in light of the gradual lifting of COVID restrictions. At the same time, we will continue to innovate exciting ways to fundraise and engage further with our many supporters.



### **Project HomeWorks**

We hope to serve even more homeowners in FY2023 as COVID restrictions ease. We also look forward to kickstarting home rehabilitation projects with a community focus to foster civic-mindedness between neighbours.



### **UnLitter Red Dot**

We will continue to champion the importance of clean communities virtually through BlockWalk alongside physical community clean-ups with volunteer groups.



#### **Builds**

We are excited to finally start sending volunteers to Batam Build after a 2-year hiatus due to the pandemic. The Grace for Cambodia Project has also been extended for one more year.

## 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.



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

### **Volunteer**

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/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 <a href="mailto:info@habitatorg.sg">info@habitatorg.sg</a> 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 Key Supporters

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

- Golden Development Pte Ltd
- CP Kelco Singapore Pte Ltd (a J.M. Huber Corporation company)
  - Advario Singapore Chemical Pte. Ltd.
    - Singapore Totalisator Board
    - Bloomberg Singapore Pte. Ltd.
      - ST Logistics
  - Allied World Assurance Company Ltd
  - Procter & Gamble (Singapore) Pte Ltd
    - Visa Worldwide Pte. LTD
    - Owens Corning (Singapore) Pte Ltd
      - Zendesk Singapore Pte Ltd
      - Bank of America Merrill Lynch
      - NTUC Fairprice Foundation Ltd
      - Tong Heng Delicacies Pte Ltd





