

# *Celebrating 20 Years of Home*

**FY2024  
Annual Report**





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# About Habitat for Humanity Singapore

Habitat Singapore is part of the international Habitat non-profit organisation 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 an intensive home rehabilitation programme for vulnerable individuals and families so they can have a safe and sanitary place to call home.

This year, we celebrate 20 years of empowering through shelter.

## Vision

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

## Mission

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

UEN Number: 200201617W

Registered address: 56 Lorong 23 Geylang, #05-01, Singapore 388381

Auditors: Fiducia LLP

Bank: Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited



# Message From Our Newly Appointed National Director

As we close another remarkable year, it is with great pride and gratitude that we present our Annual Report for FY 2024. This year has been one of transformation, growth, and resilience, as we continue to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of housing issues in Singapore and Asia Pacific.

At Habitat for Humanity Singapore, we remain committed to our mission of putting God's love into action by building homes, communities and hope, and this year has demonstrated the strength of our collective efforts. We have achieved significant milestones, driven innovation, and fostered deeper relationships with our valued stakeholders, all while staying true to our core values.

This report offers a comprehensive overview of our performance, highlighting key successes and challenges, as well as outlining our vision for the future. As we look ahead, we remain focused on building upon the foundation we've established and embracing the opportunities that will propel us to new heights.

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the dedication, hard work, and passion of our team members, partners, and volunteers. It is through your unwavering support that we have continued to thrive and succeed. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for Habitat for Humanity Singapore, and we look forward to all that we will accomplish in the coming year.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.

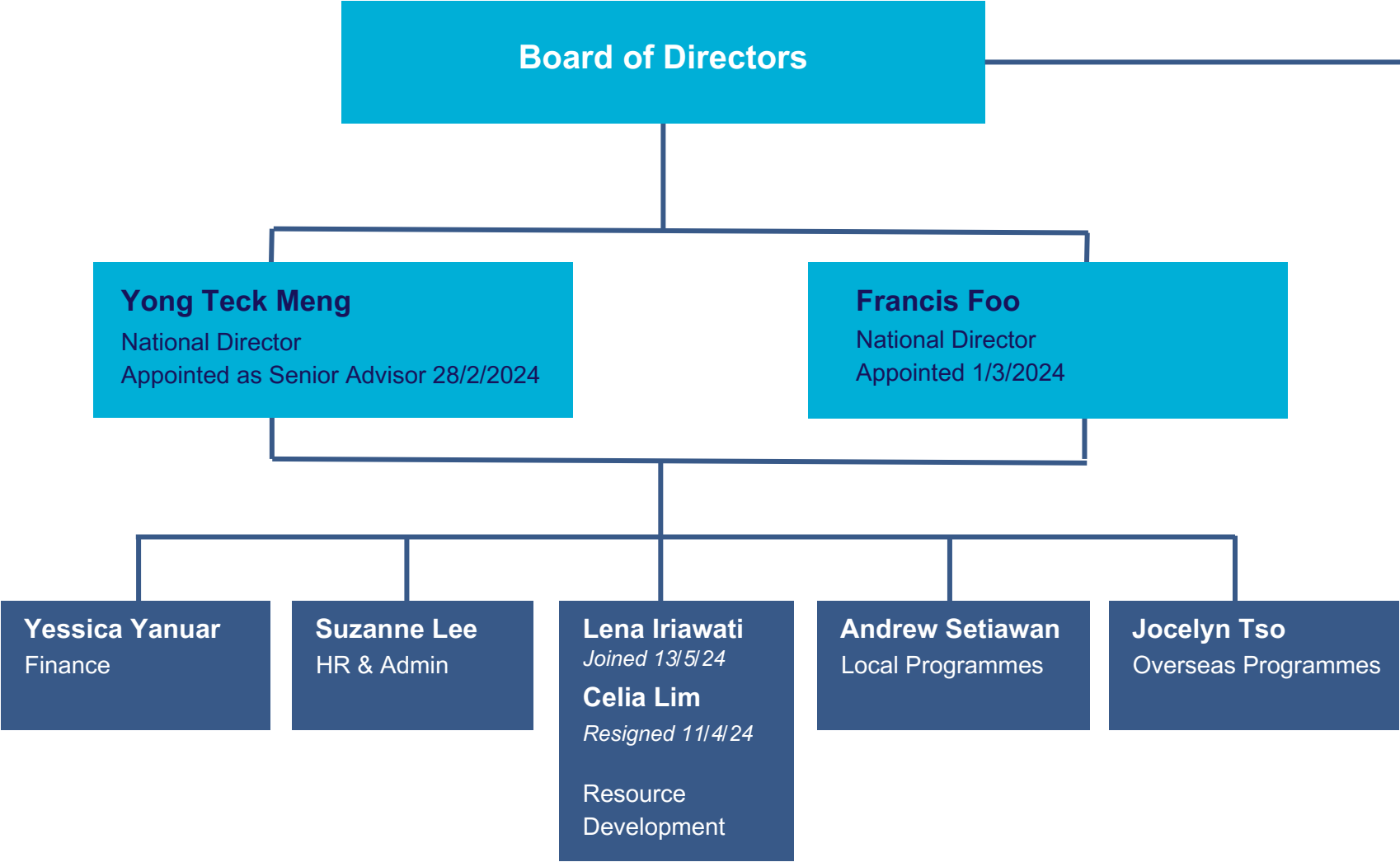


*Francis Foo*

*It is through your unwavering support that we have continued to thrive and succeed. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for Habitat for Humanity Singapore...*

# Leadership & Organisational Structure

Habitat for Humanity Singapore is governed by a Board of Directors and led by a National Director. Upon appointment, each board member serves a term of 2 years, and may serve 2 consecutive terms. Members of the board of directors serve voluntarily and receive no remuneration or benefits.



Name	Term	Attendance in FY 2024
See Han Chiang, Daniel (Chairman)	Appointed 31 March 2022	3 out of 4
Liew Tian Seng, Alvin (Vice-Chairman & Treasurer)	Appointed 31 March 2022	3 out of 4
Sharon Cheah Ui Hoon	Appointed 20 February 2018	3 out of 4
Timothy Chua Wee Kiong	Appointed 31 March 2022	1 out of 4
Giam Kee Choo, Richard	Appointed 4 May 2022	0 out of 4
Low Wye Yee	Appointed 4 May 2022	4 out of 4
Christina Lu Qiu Xia	Appointed 4 May 2022	3 out of 4
Shih Hiong Shing Leslie	Appointed 18 September 2023	4 out of 4
Lydia Kam Yan Leng	Appointed 18 September 2023	4 out of 4
Rainford Shobanan Kyle Sittampalam	Appointed 18 September 2023	3 out of 4
Chan Bing Hung Ivan	Resigned 7 September 2023	0 out of 4
Ng Siew Geck	Resigned 7 September 2023	0 out of 4
Khoo Su Yin, Adeline	Resigned 20 March 2024	2 out of 4
Thomas Lim Kia Hwee	Resigned 20 March 2024	2 out of 4

## Meetings of the Board of Directors

The board meetings attendance reported is based on Habitat for Humanity Singapore’s Financial Year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

Dates of meetings as follows:

3 October 2023, 30 October 2023, 20 March 2024 and 18 June 2024.

# Corporate Governance

## Conflict of Interest

To ensure transparency and ethical conduct, all board members and staff are required to disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest on a regular and need-to basis. In alignment with this policy, all board members abstain from participation in decisions related to matters in which they have conflict of interest.

## Whistleblowing

This policy includes reporting procedures for potential violations of the covenant or suspected misconduct, including fraud, unethical behaviour, conflicts of interest, or situations that go against their conscience. Supervisors must report complaints to designated representatives to ensure proper investigation and identification of potential patterns of unethical behaviour. Anonymous reporting can be done through the Habitat Ethics and Accountability Line (HEAL).

## Personal Data Privacy

This policy provides information about how we collect, treat, retain and dispose of personal data of our volunteers, donors, beneficiaries, job applicants, partners and relevant individuals. It is written in compliance with Singapore's Personal Data Protection Act 2012 (PDPA). Enquiries regarding personal data may be directed to [Vonny@habitat.org.sg](mailto:Vonny@habitat.org.sg).

## Ethics & Code of Conduct

The Habitat for Humanity Ethics Covenant is a promise made by all Habitat representatives that we will undertake our work while adhering to the highest standards of ethical conduct. Ethical behaviour goes beyond the minimal adherence to local laws.

We respect, promote and safeguard the rights and dignities of all people without discrimination or bullying of any kind. We treat all beneficiaries with respect, dignity and courtesy.

We treat all Habitat donors, colleagues, volunteers, contractors, beneficiaries, partners and suppliers with fairness and in accordance with Habitat for Humanity rules and regulations.

## Adult & Child Safeguarding

This is our pledge to create and maintain a work and life environment that is safe, productive and respectful for the adults and children we serve. We believe they have the right to be protected from any harm that can arise during our operations or project activities.

We recognise the unique vulnerabilities of children and at-risk adults living in fragile contexts and remain steadfast in our commitment to be a safe organisation for all whom we serve or with whom we have contact.

## Safe Recruitment for Employment

Safe recruitment practices are routinely applied to ensure that every candidate and volunteer is suitable to work with children and at-risk adults living in fragile contexts, and that they are able to live our values by contributing to a safe and healthy workplace culture.

This includes robust interviewing practices where safeguarding is core and a consistent part of the process. Thorough reference checks are conducted to assess attitudes, behaviours, and a background check or self-declaration may be conducted if permitted by local law.

## Remuneration of staff

Staff of Habitat Singapore are not involved in setting their own remuneration. In FY 2024, there are no staff receiving remuneration exceeding \$100,000.



# At A Glance

Our total impact between July 2023 to June 2024



**8072**  
Volunteers  
Engaged



**267**  
Home rehabilitation  
sessions conducted



**152**  
Homes rehabilitated



**60**  
Litter-Picking  
sessions conducted



**1154**  
Kilograms of  
litter picked



**720**  
Public Spaces  
covered



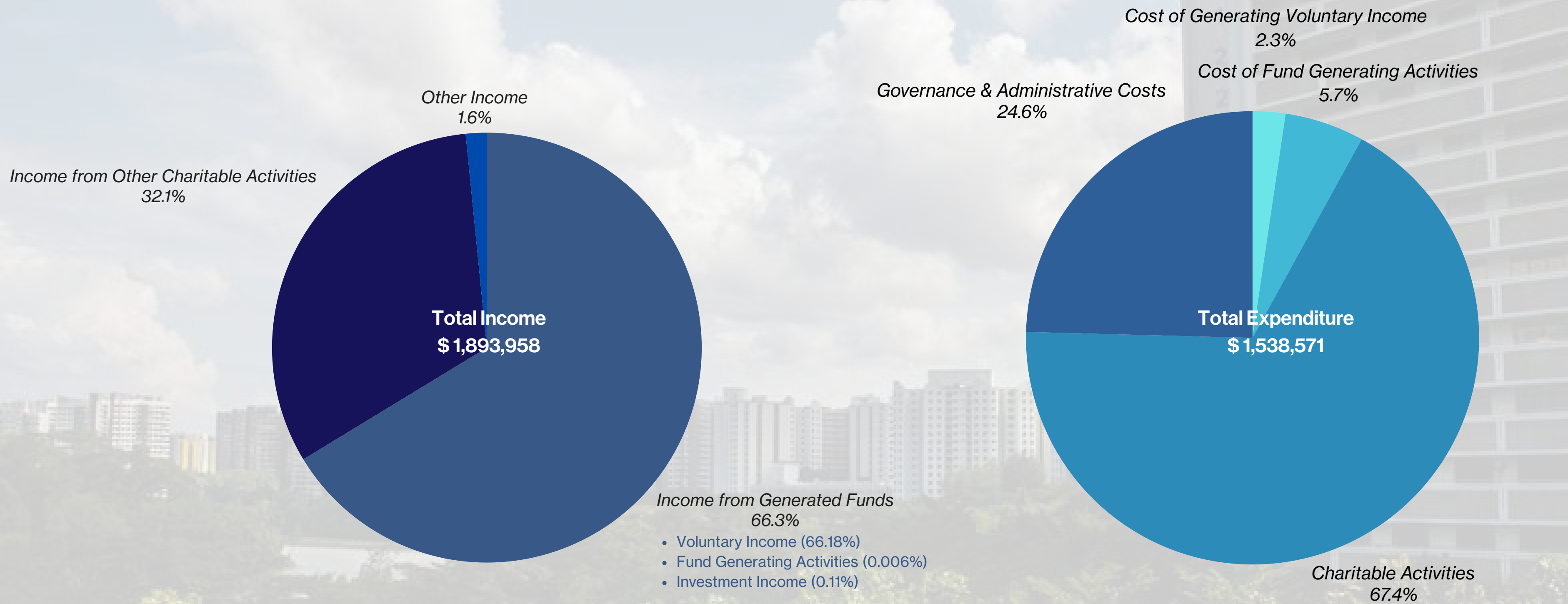
**20**  
Houses built  
in Batam



**5**  
Latrines built in  
Batam

# At A Glance

Our Finances from July 2023 to June 2024





A photograph of an elderly woman with short dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt. She is standing in front of a window with white shutters and is making a peace sign with her right hand. The background shows a glimpse of a room with a window and some furniture.

# Our Programmes

## Project HomeWorks

Driven by Habitat's belief that no person being should live in unsafe, unhygienic or undignified environment, Habitat Singapore partners with Social Service Agencies and Family Service Centres to identify vulnerable persons and families who need assistance to rehabilitate their homes into a safe and sanitary state.

In FY 2024, Habitat Singapore conducted 267 home rehabilitation sessions for 152 homes, with the involvement of 1367 volunteers.

Volunteers involved in Project HomeWorks included representation from youth groups, educational institutions, corporate businesses and individual members of the public. They had contributed a total of 5468 volunteering hours to this programme.



”

*I feel that what Habitat for Humanity Singapore does is one of the most impactful volunteering activities out there - to improve the living conditions and the lives of vulnerable families and communities with just a few hours of sweat and energy. Every time I volunteer, I get to make a tangible impact in improving the homes of those who need it most, such as the elderly - being able to do this is something which motivates me to volunteer often.*

*Project HomeWorks Volunteer*





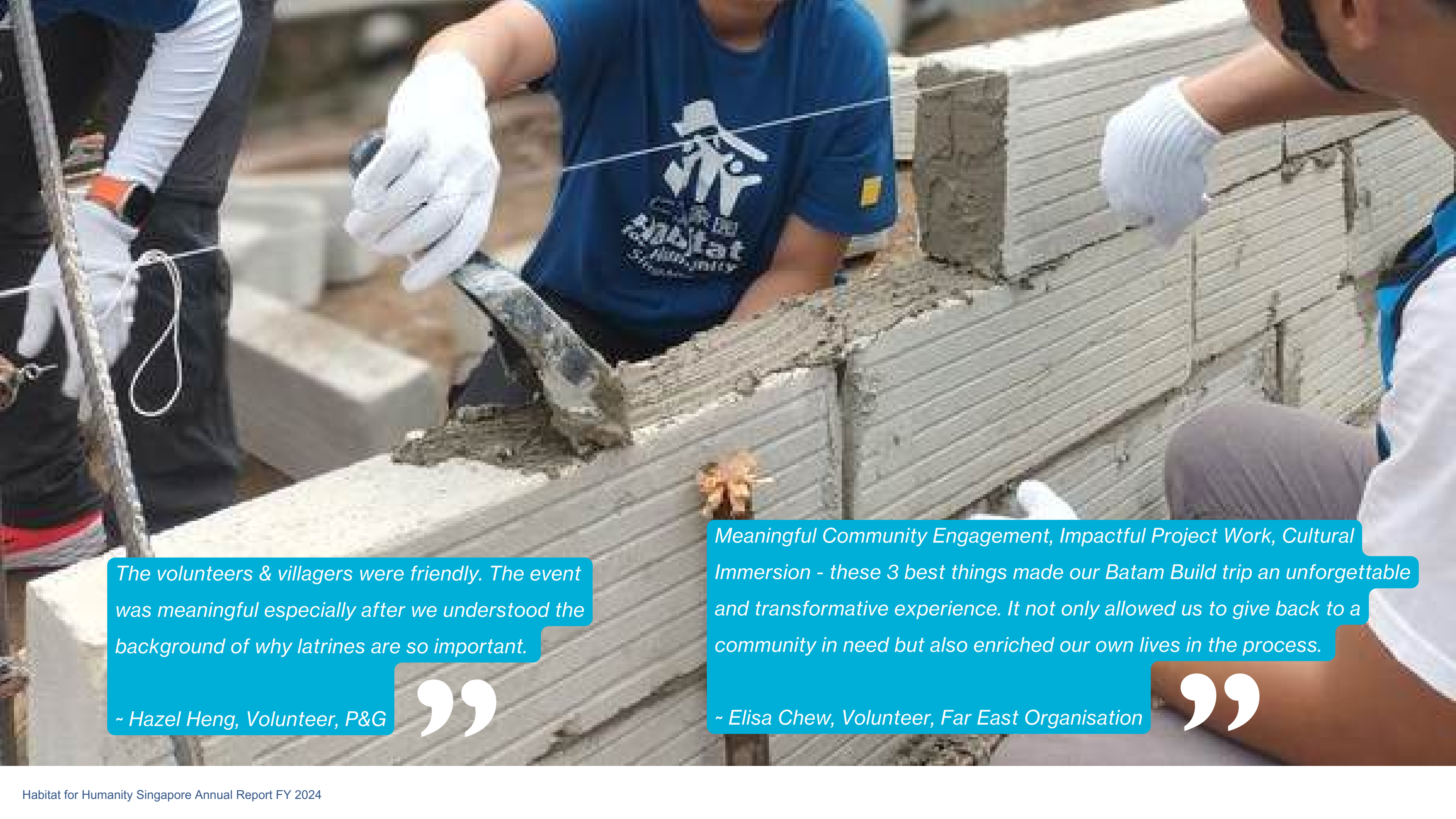
## Global Village: Batam Build

As part of Habitat Singapore's Global Village programme, Batam Build re-opened for overseas volunteer in year 2023. For FY 2024, Habitat Singapore organised 25 teams of volunteers, involved a total of 208 volunteers, to build a total of 20 houses and 5 latrines in Batam.

Batam Build has completed its main work at Kabil and are now focusing in 3 other areas (Kampung Bagan, Tanjung Piayu and Sukadamai.) We work closely with the local government and local community to ensure the work we do will benefit the community.







*The volunteers & villagers were friendly. The event was meaningful especially after we understood the background of why latrines are so important.*

*~ Hazel Heng, Volunteer, P&G*

”

*Meaningful Community Engagement, Impactful Project Work, Cultural Immersion - these 3 best things made our Batam Build trip an unforgettable and transformative experience. It not only allowed us to give back to a community in need but also enriched our own lives in the process.*

*~ Elisa Chew, Volunteer, Far East Organisation*

”



*I am very grateful to the donors who have helped me provide a house through Habitat for Humanity. I am grateful to be able to live independently with the status of a widow and still raise my children. Thanks to the kind-hearted donor, now my children and I finally have a better place to live.*

*This assistance has not only provided us with a more decent home but has also allowed my business to grow. Initially, I only sell snacks and groceries from home, but now I can also sell cooked food takeaway because I have a proper kitchen. The customers are mainly my neighbours.*

*I extend my deepest gratitude to the donor and Habitat for their support and assistance. May God repay all the kindness and generosity that has been given. Thank you very much. In the future, I will continue to take good care of my house because I can earn money by setting up kiosk at home and I will focus on supporting my children's schooling.*

”

*Mrs Ermwati, Habitat Beneficiary*



# UnLitter Red Dot

UnLitter Red Dot is our community clean-up programme created to nurture a culture and society that is more civic-minded and considerate. 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 FY 2024, Habitat Singapore conducted 50 UnLitter Red Dot sessions across 50 public spaces. This resulted in a total of 1154kg of litter picked up by 1069 volunteers.



## BlockWalk

Launched in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic, BlockWalk is a community clean-up and litter-picking programme conducted virtually online, where participants can join in using their mobile devices from their location of choice. They are highly recommended to choose a location in their own neighbourhood or a nearby park.

In FY 2024, 1335 volunteers had participated in 11 sessions, cleaning up a total of 670 public spaces.





## Campus Chapters

Habitat for Humanity Singapore's Campus Chapter programme empowers youths with a platform for personal growth through meaningful work and engagement. Throughout this year-long initiative, participants actively engage in fundraising and advocacy efforts to support beneficiaries.

### Eunonia Junior College

Students of Eunonia Junior College successfully conducted various advocacy booths within the school and organised a merchandise campaign to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity Singapore. These combined efforts resulted in a commendable total of \$1,980.88.

### Dunman High School

Students of Dunman High School had successfully secured a grant from Youth for Causes. Leveraging on this grant, the school organised a series of fundraising events, including an engaging escape room experience at Tampines Hub and the sale of school merchandise. These resulted in a total of \$3212.92 raised for Habitat for Humanity Singapore

### Project HomeRun

Project Homerun, a dedicated group comprising three University students, successfully conducted bake sales and actively advocated as Champions for Habitat for Humanity Singapore's Project HomeWorks, a home rehabilitation program. Throughout the year, Project Homerun raised a total of \$526.





# Activities & Fundraisers

*#Sharethegiftofhome*



## Christmas Wreath Workshop

Giving participants the experience and joy of crafting their very own festive mini Christmas wreath centerpiece. Materials included Christmas foliage, ornaments, ribbons, and a charming candle. Participants were able to then take this handmade festive decor home with them.



## Build-A-Christmas Biscuit Workshop

Coming together with the beneficiaries from our community partners to engage in a meaningful and festive activity by building Christmas Biscuit Homes, our unique local twist on the traditional gingerbread house! A total of 9 workshop sessions were held between October to December 2023.



## Christmas Floral Press Workshop

This workshop included a demonstration on how participants can dry and press flowers with everyday household materials, and also to create their very own floral press in frame, to bring home after the session.

Share The Gift of Home was a series of fundraising event held in the lead up to Christmas, from October to December 2023. The campaign involved ticket sales to various workshops, and online donation campaign.

The total amount of funds raised was \$318,005, which was dedicated to supporting resources for Project HomeWorks - our local home rehabilitation programme.





## Mother's Day Floral Press Workshops

These floral press workshops are conducted by Fresh off the Press. During the 1.5-hour session, participants learned how to press flowers and curate a beautiful frame with the inset of dried flowers that is sure to impress Mom on her special day!

A total of two workshop sessions were conducted in May 2024, raising a total of \$1,035 to be dedicated to our local home rehabilitation programme, Project HomeWorks.



## A Brush with Kindness

A Brush with Kindness is a home painting event for families and elderly within the Lavender Community. In the span of a 7 hours on a designated day, more than 125 volunteers were able to paint 27 homes concurrently.



# Sew Much Love

Sew Much Love is an all-year-long initiative by Habitat Singapore to co-create Agape Blankets with our supporters.

The public was invited to donate a small amount to design one quilt square, while corporations were encouraged to sponsor an entire quilt that their staff could design, which will be transformed into a one-of-a-kind Agape Blanket by our sewing volunteers. A total of \$32,680 was raised for our local home rehabilitation programme, Project HomeWorks, and completed Agape blankets were also gifted to vulnerable families around the Asia-Pacific region.







# Youth Fundraisers

As the leaders of tomorrow, youth fundraisers are important for youths to not only learn event planning skills, it is a vital aspect of fostering a culture of giving, creating community impact, and instilling long-term values of social responsibility.

There were a total of 6 fundraisers held by youth groups and the educational institutions they represent. These activities had raised a total of \$35,056.80, and were donated to Habitat Singapore's local programme - Project HomeWorks.

## Anglo-Chinese School (International)

Anglo-Chinese School (International) annually hosts a charity run to support a chosen charitable organisation. In 2023, the school proudly selected Habitat for Humanity Singapore as the beneficiary of its fundraising efforts. Held on 26 August, the run successfully raised a total of \$26,095.

## Dulwich College (Singapore)

As part of the Dulwich College Community, Activity, and Service (CAS) Programme, students volunteered in Project HomeWorks and subsequently organised a successful fundraising event to support Habitat for Humanity. Held on 10 June 2023, the fundraiser achieved a total of \$5,000.

## Temasek Polytechnic - School of Engineering

Through the Temasek Polytechnic TPLed program, Habitat Singapore partnered with Course Managers from the Diploma in Aviation Management within the School of Engineering at Temasek Polytechnic. This collaboration integrated community service into their module, encouraging students to actively engage in volunteering and fundraising activities. During the 2024 fiscal year, these efforts collectively raised a commendable \$1,641.56, showcasing the students' dedication to serving the community.



# Media Features



## Straits Times – Article

'I collected items to fill up emptiness': Loss, stress at root of hoarding problem, say volunteers.

[Read it here](#)



## Channel News Asia – Podcast

Deep Dive – Deadly residential fires: Is stricter enforcement needed?

[Tune in here](#)



## City of Good (NVPC) – Article

Rehabilitating Homes Showed This Singaporean Youth A Side of Singapore Rarely Seen

[Read it here](#)



## Our Grandfather Story

Featured in an episode on Hidden Hustles series, OGS host assists Habitat team to rehabilitate a home infested with bedbugs.

[View it here](#)



## Channel News Asia – News Clip

CNA news coverage on the pandemic and its impact on hoarding situations in Singapore. Volunteer groups that help to declutter homes say the COVID-19 pandemic has made the hoarding situation worse, citing restrictions of movement and panic buying.

[View it here](#)



# A Tribute to Our Former National Director

*The book of Ecclesiastes was written by King Solomon, a person whom the Bible declares to be the wisest who ever lived and who ever will live.*

*So the wisest human being observed in chapter 3 verse 1 that there is a season for everything and every matter. He then went on to describe how there is a time for this, or that – forming a whole list of common human experiences. Solomon was of course correct, for we are all subjected to the relentless passage of time, to which no one can be exempted.*

*So it is the case for me as well. After 20 years of leading Habitat for Humanity Singapore, I passed the baton this year to Mr. Francis Foo, who took on the role of National Director in March 2024. The board subsequently appointed me as the Senior Advisor to the organization, so that I can assist Francis in the transition, and also contribute in whatever manner I can. Francis has been working in the social/charity sector for many years, and Habitat Singapore will benefit from his many years of experience.*

*Transitions can be difficult for all of us, and the organization.*

*In our case, I am thankful that everything went smoothly, and that we are continually guided as an organization by very comprehensive principles that came from the Bible. No matter what the season is, these Biblical principles are about the eternal truths of God – how we should treat each other, and why and how we should always be loving and serving the disadvantaged among us. It is to these principles that I have served, and I expect to continue to contribute to the cause of Habitat for Humanity for many more years to come.*

*I have been very blessed to be able to enjoy a very satisfying 20 years of direct involvement, having been part of the building of thousands of houses in many regions and many other projects that impacted the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. I certainly do not see myself slowing down at all in playing my small role in making this world a better place. I will continue to pray for more opportunities to work with others in this most rewarding journey of service. Let's all come together to do just that for the next 20 years and beyond!*

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*



*Yang Tech Meng*



[www.habitat.org.sg](http://www.habitat.org.sg)