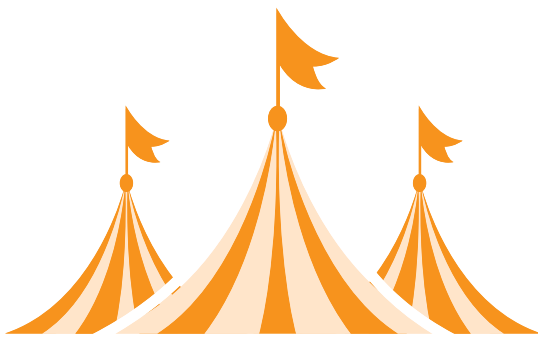


TEXT BY

**JENNIFER LEE***Deputy Manager,  
SMA Charity Fund**Legend*

1. A big thank you to all who supported Camp Simba 2015
2. Your smile makes my volunteer trip worthwhile; Amelia Koe with one of the camp participants

*Photos by Camp Simba***CAMP****SIMBA****2015**

Since 2009, students from Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School (Duke-NUS) and Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (YLLSoM) have co-organised a fun-packed camp in June for children whose parents, siblings or close relatives have contracted or passed away from cancer.

Modelled after Camp Kesem in the US, Camp Simba aims to give these children the opportunity to just be kids and enjoy themselves. Camp Simba was first organised in collaboration with SingHealth and HCA Hospice Care. Since its conception in 2009, the annual camp has been a huge success and is now an integral part of SingHealth's and HCA's annual programmes for their patients' children. It also provides a platform for students from the two medical schools to come together annually to reach out to these children, providing a fun, safe and supportive environment amid the emotional stress caused by their family members' illness.

Camp Simba 2015 saw a total of 62 participants from multiple partner institutions, KK Women's and Children's Hospital, HCA Hospice, Singapore Cancer Society and National Cancer Institute Singapore. Our campers were carefully matched with 32 student facilitators recruited from Duke-NUS and YLLSoM in a two to one ratio. The camp was held from 5 to 7 June 2015, with activities held at locations such as Sentosa and the Wild Wild Wet water theme park.

**"Camp Simba is definitely one of the most enriching experiences I've had," says Amelia Koe, head facilitator of Camp Simba 2015 and a Duke-NUS year one student. "Seeing the happiness on the children's faces and hearing the gratefulness expressed by their parents made me realise that medicine goes far beyond the patient's illness. It's a precious reminder to keep both emotional and social needs in mind."**

SMA Charity Fund (SMACF) is one of the supporting partners of Camp Simba 2015. SMACF has been working closely with the medical schools to support meaningful projects to promote volunteerism and build a compassionate medical profession that impacts healthcare and our society! ♦

