

# SMA

## Charity Fund

Annual Report 2020



SMA  
Charity  
Fund



# CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

## REFLECT, READJUST, REFUEL

2020 was a year like no other; indeed, it has been one of the most difficult and tumultuous of any year in recent times for many families and businesses. Similarly, charities were significantly affected, with reduced donations received. Like many social service agencies, SMA Charity Fund (SMACF) also faced our share of financial challenges. Our donations were hugely impacted, with a significant 50% drop in donations received compared with the previous year.

Last year, SMACF received more applications for the SMA Medical Students' Assistance Fund (SMA-MSAF) bursary from needy medical students. Our financially challenged medical students had been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of their families faced job losses and income depreciation during the battle with this virus, leaving our beneficiaries with an uncertain future ahead.

However, in spite of the challenges faced, there has also been positives. Many of our regular supporters had come forward to support us in our appeals through our "Thank You Front-Line Heroes" fundraising project. On behalf of the Board and staff of SMACF, I would like to take this opportunity to express our utmost gratitude to all our donors for being so supportive and for staying with us through this tough period of time. We will need your continued support as we navigate through a highly uncertain year ahead with COVID-19 still wreaking havoc in the local and global landscapes.

While we look back and reflect on the challenges and setbacks faced in 2020, let us also march forward into the New Year with gratitude and renewed hope. Although the path forward may feel uncertain and gloomy, it has never been clearer that the rallying call of "Together, We Can" rings loud and clear in our community. During this crisis, we have seen people coming together in support of people they have probably never met, providing help and care through various acts of charity. Indeed, there is light even in the darkness. Let us continue to work together to meet the future challenges that may arise as we seek to build a brighter future filled with compassionate doctors who espouse the ethos of curing sometimes, treating often and comforting always.

May we wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year! Cheers to Good Health, Happiness and Prosperity in the year ahead!



**Dr Chong Yeh Woei**  
Chairperson, Board of Directors



## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND RESERVES POLICY

### Board of Directors

A strong and experienced Board of Directors will be able to best serve the objectives and interests of SMACF. Our Board of Directors comprises individuals from diverse professional backgrounds who possess immense experience in governing charities and a keen interest in healthcare and medical education. The heterogeneity of the Board allows for robust discussion and a diversity of ideas, which would further advance the objectives and interests of SMACF. No member of the Board is paid for services to the SMACF in that capacity.

### Conflict of Interest and Related Party Transactions

All board members and key management personnel of SMACF are required to read and understand the policy on conflicts of interest that is in place, and make full disclosure of any interests, relationships and holdings that could potentially result in a conflict of interest. When a situation with a conflict of interest arises, the conflicted party shall abstain from participating in the discussion and decision-making of that matter.

### Reserves Policy

In addition to reviewing our reserves on an ongoing basis, SMACF intends to maintain a sufficient level of reserves to allow it to continue its work and perform continuing obligations even when donations dry up during unforeseen circumstances. Our reserves will be reviewed on an ongoing basis, while new and current programmes develop and proceed.

SMA Charity Fund (UEN: 201305017E) was registered in Singapore as a 'Company Limited by Guarantee' under the Companies Act on 25 February 2013. SMACF has been a registered charity under the Charities Act since 17 April 2013 and recognised as an Institution of a Public Character by the Commissioner of Charities since 27 December 2013.

# SMACF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

SMACF is managed by a Board of Directors, which also acts as the Programme and Fundraising Committees. The Board is supported by two staff under the employment of SMACF and the staff team from the Singapore Medical Association.



**DR CHONG YEH WOEI**

**Chairperson**

Public Health Physician  
in private sector



**MR ALEX KOH**

**Director since 2017**

Audit Partner  
at audit firm



**MR COLIN LIM**

**Director since 2013**

Chief Information  
Officer and Group  
Director in Ministry  
of Health



**ADJ PROF TAN  
SZE WEE**

**Director since 2013**

Assistant Chief  
Executive at  
research agency



**MR T K UDAIRAM**

**Director since 2013**

Chief Operating  
Officer in private  
healthcare sector



**MS KOH LIN-NET**

**Director since 2019**

Chief Executive in  
non-profit foundation



**DR LIM  
KHENG CHOON**

**Director since 2015**

Diagnostic Radiologist  
in public practice



**DR NOORUL  
FATHA AS'ART**

**Director since 2015**

Public Health Physician  
in Ministry of Health



**DR WONG  
CHIANG YIN**

**Director since 2013**

Group Chief Executive  
Officer in private  
healthcare group



**DR ROLAND XU  
WEIXIANG**

**Director since 2019**

Medical Officer in  
public institution

## COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS

**Audit Committee  
Chairperson:**  
Mr T K Udairam

**Members:**  
Mr Alex Koh,  
Mr Colin Lim

**Finance Committee  
Chairperson:**  
Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee

**Members:**  
Dr Wong Chiang Yin,  
Ms Koh Lin-Net,  
Dr Roland Xu

**Human Resource  
Committee Chairperson:**  
Mr Colin Lim

**Member:**  
Dr Lim Kheng Choon

**Nominating Committee  
Chairperson:**  
Mr Alex Koh

**Members:**  
Dr Noorul Fatha As'art,  
Mr T K Udairam

## BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD 2020

Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Dr Chong Yeh Woei	3/3	Ms Koh Lin-Net	2/3
Mr Alex Koh	3/3	Dr Lim Kheng Choon	0/3
Mr Colin Lim	2/3	Dr Noorul Fatha As'art	3/3
Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee	3/3	Dr Wong Chiang Yin	3/3
Mr T K Udairam	2/3	Dr Roland Xu	2/3

## Words of Thanks from Bursary Recipients

2020 had been a challenging one for everyone. The COVID-19 pandemic had adversely affected many families financially in Singapore. Many will continue to face possible job losses and income depreciation in the coming months. SMACF received many more applications for the SMA-MSAF bursary from needy medical students last year, and we are heartened by the generosity of our donors, especially during this time of great need. In this segment, we share some of our recipients' heartfelt notes of gratitude to our donors for the much-needed financial assistance they received through the SMA-MSAF.

My father, who was the sole breadwinner of the family, was retrenched a few years ago due to the closure of the company, and he is now semi-retired. I am immensely appreciative of the generosity of the donors, as this bursary has allowed me to focus on my education and provide my parents with much-needed relief. Moving forward, I will treasure this opportunity that has been given to me, and strive to be the best student and doctor that I can be!

**Shawn Low Shao En**  
NUS Medicine M2



Thank you for your generosity in funding the SMA-MSAF bursary for medical students. I am truly grateful and honoured to be a recipient of this bursary award. This financial aid will go a long way in helping me sustain my personal and academic financial needs, from the purchase of medical textbooks to my daily living needs such as food and transport. Every dollar will go into alleviating my financial burdens as I focus my attention on training to be a future doctor. I promise to put the funds to good use and remember the help I have received so that I can pay it forward in the future.

**Ang Wei Xiang**  
Duke-NUS Medical School M2





I am very grateful to be receiving the SMA-MSAF bursary this year. Having received it last year, the financial aid has helped me greatly in focusing on my academic pursuits. The pandemic in 2020 has deeply affected my father's work, and this bursary has ensured that my parents did not need to worry about my daily expenditure. As my two younger brothers head into their final academic years in 2021, not having to worry about the family's financial situation has also benefitted them, and I hope that they will do well academically. With this bursary award, I will try my best to maintain my grades, contribute to the field by excelling in my current research project, assist the MedSoc as the new welfare head, and give back whenever I can. This bursary has taken a lot of weight off my shoulders as the eldest child, and I am truly grateful for it.

**Lim Khai Shin Alva**

Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine M2



Thank you for your generous contribution to make the pursuit of medicine a possible endeavour for students from less privileged socioeconomic backgrounds. Medicine demands a great deal – of time, hard work and money. Your contribution not only alleviates the financial burden of a medical education, but more importantly, it has allowed me to experience the kindness and humanity in medicine and inspired me (and I believe other recipients) to pay forward the generosity I have received. I graduate next year and am excited to join you as a donor once I start working.

**Emily Soh Ming Li**

Duke-NUS Medical School M4



Thank you so much for your contribution to this bursary. I am sincerely grateful to receive such financial help as a medical student. Things have not been easy – coming from a family of six with one sole breadwinner, I do not receive an allowance from my parents and often have to work during school holidays to earn some extra income. Receiving this bursary means a great deal to me, as it has helped support me on a day-to-day basis. Without it, I would have exhausted all my savings and may have even ended up in debt. Once again, thank you for being the light in such a dark time! I hope to meet my donors one day to repay them for their kindness, or pay it forward when I am able, so that other needy medical students can fulfil their dream of becoming a doctor.

**Pereira Emma Marie-Pamerlyn**

Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine M4



I would like to thank the donors for their contribution to this bursary fund, for which I am beyond grateful to be a recipient. It has relieved my financial worries and allowed me to focus on my studies and truly enjoy my last moments as a student. I have been fortunate to have received many bursaries over the years. These bursaries have helped me cope with my day-to-day expenses and pay for resources needed for my studies. I am truly indebted to all the donors for their kindness and generosity. I am also motivated to contribute to this fund in future to help needy medical students.

**Liu Li Hui**

NUS Medicine M5



# KEY PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS 2020

## Fundraising: Thank You Front-Line Heroes Campaign

Last year, SMACF launched a fundraising campaign entitled “Thank You Front-Line Heroes” in recognition of the hard work of healthcare professionals at the front-line during the pandemic. Funds raised from this campaign will support underprivileged medical students in their daily expenses through the SMA-MSAF bursary. Donors receive a pair of customised bears, which they can gift to a front-line hero as a token of appreciation for their courage and dedication to their profession.



## Meet-the-Chairperson Bursary Event 2020



In the last quarter of 2020, SMACF organised a virtual “Meet-the-Chairperson” bursary event in conformance to the government’s safe management measures. More than 40 bursary recipients were in attendance, and we were joined by SMACF Chairperson Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Board Member Dr Roland Xu, SMA Council Member Dr Ivan Low and SMA Chief Administrator Ms Krysania Tan. During the event, Dr Chong shared with recipients the aims of SMACF and the importance of diversity in the medical profession. The evening featured a segment where our recipients shared interesting nuggets of their life outside of medical school, such as unusual hobbies, as well as their hopes and dreams for the future after graduation.

# FOUR-PRONGED STRATEGIC APPROACH

SMA Charity Fund adopts the following four-pronged strategic approach to meet the financial needs of medical students and, in so doing, inculcate a compassionate medical profession that impacts healthcare in Singapore.



### Providing Financial Assistance

SMACF reaches out to needy medical students, providing financial aid through the SMA MSAF. Funds are fully disbursed to these students and not offset against their tuition fees, so that the basic living expenses of the students and their families can be met.



### Supporting Learning Exposure

SMACF lends necessary support to needy medical students to enable them to attend medical conferences or overseas elective postings, creating equal opportunities in the pursuit of medical knowledge beyond the local context and exposing them to different medical systems, spectrums of diseases and patient demographics.



### Advocating Volunteerism

SMACF believes in the value of building a compassionate medical profession. Volunteering opportunities are created to tap on the technical skills of the medical profession to benefit the community through healthcare projects. The SMA News column, “From the Heart”, regularly features volunteering opportunities and personal stories of medical professionals and students giving back to the society.

SCHOOL	PROJECT
NUS Medicine	Project Legacy
	Freshmen Orientation Camp Community Involvement Project (FOCCIP)
	Public Health Screening
	Tri-Generational Homecare @ North West
Duke-NUS	Neighbourhood Health Service
	Paediatric Brain Solid Tumour Awareness
	Camp Simba



### Recognising Mentorship

SMACF supports awards in recognition of outstanding mentors and researchers, with a special focus on research with significant contributions to public health. Each year, a maximum of ten awards are presented to outstanding mentors who are nominated by mentees from NUS Medicine at the Wong Hock Boon Society Symposium.

# KEY STATISTICS

Here are the highlights of what we have done for every dollar raised since inception in 2013:



>41,000  
HOURS  
VOLUNTEERED



364  
SMA-MSAF  
BURSARIES  
AWARDED

>S\$1.7MIL  
DISBURSED



13  
LEARNING  
EXPOSURE TRIPS  
SUPPORTED



59  
WHB-SMACF  
OUTSTANDING  
MENTOR AWARDS  
PRESENTED

## KEY FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the financial year 2020, SMACF recorded a surplus of \$249,953; this excludes the \$75,000 that was disbursed through the funds held by the NUS Development Office for the SMA-MSAF. Despite the challenges of COVID-19, we were able to derive our income for FY2020 due to various factors. The funds received from our Bicentennial Community Fund dollar-for-dollar matching grant submission was one of many factors. Another significant contributor to the FY2020 income was our major fundraising project, "Thank You, Front-Line Heroes", which received tremendous support from donors. SMA Life members' overwhelming response to an appeal by Chairperson, Dr Chong Yeh Woei, also made a huge impact on our income last year.

In FY2020, there was a slight increase of \$10,675 in our expenditure, as compared to the previous year. This was primarily due to an increase in bursary disbursements. In academic year 2020/2021, SMACF disbursed funds amounting to a total of \$275,000. These funds were utilised to support 55 needy medical students with their living expenses. Due to COVID-19 safe management measures imposed by the authorities, there were no active local community service projects or overseas learning exposure trips in 2020. Overall, SMACF utilised 63% of its expenditure for charitable activities (excluding the \$75,000 disbursed from funds held by the NUS Development Office), 19% for fundraising activities and 18% for governance-related activities.

### Statement of Financial Activities

Jan-Dec  
2020  
S\$

Jan-Dec  
2019  
S\$

#### Donations in Cash

Tax-deductible	232,846	445,001
Non tax-deductible	1,838	6,033
Grants	434,599	54,847
Total receipts	669,283	505,881
Total expenditure	419,330	408,654

#### Balance Sheet

Total assets	967,189	698,945
Total unrestricted funds	689,726	485,268
Total restricted funds	199,075	153,580
Total liabilities	78,388	60,096

#### Other Information

No of employees	2	2
Total employee cost	102,155	89,449
Fundraising efficiency ratio*	11.85%	12.16%

#### Total related party transactions

Management fee expenses	47,893	46,481
Donation income	-	57,000

\*Fundraising efficiency ratio is the total fundraising expenses to the total gross receipts from fundraising and sponsorships of the Charity or Institution of a Public Character for that financial year. To maximise the charity dollar, the total expenses incurred on fundraising events shall not exceed 30% of the total donations collected through fundraising appeals in that year.

### SMACF EXPENSES (FY2020)

63%

Charitable  
Activities

19%

Cost of Generating  
Funds

18%

Governance  
Cost

1. None of SMACF's 2 paid staff received more than \$100,000 each in annual remuneration during the financial year.  
2. None of SMACF's paid staff is a close member of the family belonging to the Executive Head or a governing Board Member of SMACF who has received remuneration exceeding \$50,000 during the financial year.



# DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SMACF would like to convey our heartfelt thanks to our donors for their unflagging support and generosity:

## Individual

Dr Ang Peng Tiam  
Dr Annitha Annathurai  
Dr Atasha Asmat  
Dr Bong Choon Looi  
Mr Lincoln Chan Peng Ting  
Ms Chee Yiru  
Dr Ann Cheong Yan Yan  
Dr Cheong Wai Kwong  
Dr Cheong Wei Kiong  
Ms Rebecca Chew Ming Hsien  
Dr Martin Chio  
Dr Chng Hiok Hee  
Dr Choong Chih Ching  
Dr Chu Siu Wen  
Dr Peter Eng Hsi Ko  
Dr Peter Goh Yu-Tang

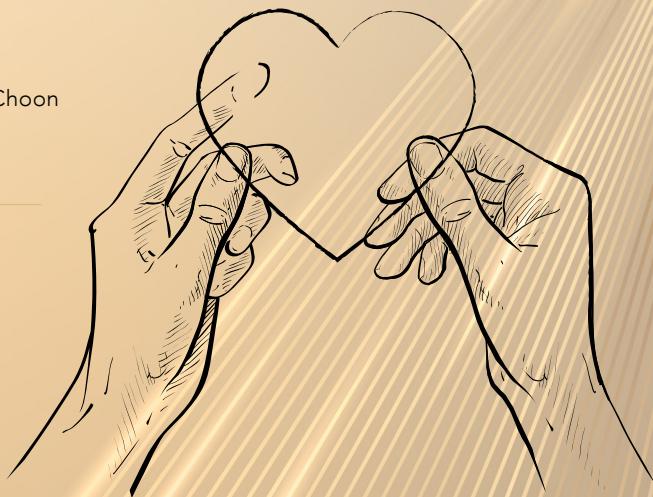
Dr Ho Sweet Far  
Mr Hsu Chen Hong  
Dr Winnie Lam Wing Chuen  
Dr Helena Lee Hui Jing  
Dr Lee Siew Chin  
Dr Rosslyn Leong Sou Fong  
Dr Lew Eileen  
Dr Lim Juay Yong  
Dr Lim Tze Chwan  
Dr Shaina Neo Hui Min  
Dr Catherine Ng Mui Nam  
Dr Raymond Ng Chee Hui  
Dr Ong Eng Cheng  
Dr Ooi Koon Hean  
Dr Poh Wee Teng  
Dr Terence Quah Chien Choon

Dr June Tan Vic Khi  
Dr Natalie Tan Woon Hui  
Mr Tan Hong Beng  
Dr Tan Seck Guan  
Dr Tay Sok Hoon  
Dr Teo Li-Ming  
Dr Teong Hui Hwang  
Dr Matthias Paul Toh Han Sim  
Dr Lilian Tsou Ching Woo  
Dr Yap Lian Eng  
Dr Melvyn Zhang Weibin

## Memorial Donation

Dr Michael Benedict Toh Kok Kuan  
Dr Tan Chee Beng

The above list is from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 and may not be exhaustive. If we have inadvertently omitted the names of any donors, we apologise for the oversight.



**Sector Administrator**  
Ministry of Health

**Banker**  
DBS Bank Ltd

**Auditor**  
Kreston David Yeung PAC

**SMA Charity Fund**  
c/o Singapore Medical  
Association

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Fax : 6252 9693

**UEN**  
201305017E

**Website**  
[www.sma.org.sg/smacf](http://www.sma.org.sg/smacf)

**Online donation**  
[www.giving.sg/smacf](http://www.giving.sg/smacf)

