



**Children's  
Cancer  
Foundation**



**For Immediate Release**

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## **CHILDREN'S CANCER FOUNDATION MARKS 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WITH OFFICIAL OPENING OF NEW COMMUNITY OFFICE**

*Children's Cancer Foundation also announces new survivorship-related initiatives as part of its blueprint for the future*

**Singapore, 9 September 2022** – Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF) officially opened its new community office at GB Point in Geylang Bahru, with President Halimah Yacob as the Guest-of-Honour.

The move of its community office to larger dedicated premises to better serve CCF beneficiaries was held in conjunction with the social service agency (SSA) commemorating 30 years of redefining childhood cancer care for children and families affected by cancer.

With its humble ground-up beginnings in 1992, when it was known as W.A.L.K. (Working in Aid of Leukaemic Kids), CCF expanded quickly to support all forms of childhood cancer. It is now a full-fledged professionally staffed SSA that offers a holistic suite of psycho-social programmes and services to support children and families throughout their childhood cancer journey and beyond.

### **Approaching the childhood cancer journey through the lens of survivorship**

Medical advancements and the availability of more cancer treatment options translate to higher survival rates among children with cancer. CCF recognises that a child's full recovery goes beyond the completion of medical treatment.

The new community office is the focal point of CCF's efforts at expanding its survivorship programmes to help beneficiaries transition smoothly back home and their community to lead promising and fulfilling lives. Occupying two floors, it is a one-stop holistic centre that comprises designated rooms for therapeutic interventions such as art, play and animal-assisted therapies, spaces to encourage camaraderie and peer support among children and youth survivors, and a learning centre, Place for Academic Learning and Support, for children transitioning to mainstream schools.

In her speech, **Madam Halimah** said: "The process of re-adjustment and re-integration back to the community is crucial. It is important for our children to heal in body, mind and spirit, so that they could grow up confidently and lead happy, fulfilling lives."

CCF ensures this continuity of care for its children and youth beneficiaries by adopting a biopsychosocial-spiritual (BPSS) model of care that works in tandem with the cancer treatments beneficiaries receive at CCF's hospital partners, KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH) and National University Hospital (NUH).



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With the BPSS model of care, CCF social workers take into account the unique biological, psychological, social and spiritual factors that affect each individual's subjective experiences and clinical outcomes, customising the support needed at every stage of the child's cancer journey from hospital back to the community.

### **New Initiatives to propel CCF's future in Singapore's childhood cancer landscape**

CCF made two announcements on its focus on survivorship during its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration event:

The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CCF and KKH to strengthen their existing partnership and programmes. It is aimed at reinforcing the provision of comprehensive and patient-centric care for the medical, physical, psychological, nutritional and social well-being of children with cancer, as well as their families. This support will be accessible throughout a child's cancer journey, from diagnosis to long-term follow-up and survivorship care; as well as palliative and bereavement support for families.

The second announcement is the planning of a dedicated medical assistance fund. With the rise in new clinical therapies and treatment options for childhood cancers, CCF anticipates an increase in families in need of financial assistance to meet large medical costs. The fund is targeted to be launched in 2023.

"In redefining childhood cancer care, we are aware of the evolving needs of our beneficiaries and their families. We must also evolve our services in collaboration with our partners," shared **CCF Chairman, Mr Ho Cheng Huat**. "As an integral part of the local paediatric oncology ecosystem, we journey with our beneficiaries to manage the various challenges at different stages of their cancer treatment and beyond."

Along with its existing and future survivorship programmes and initiatives, the opening of CCF's community office on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a renewal of its commitment towards improving the quality of life of children with cancer and their families.

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### **About Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF)**

Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF) is a social service agency with a mission to improve the quality of life of children with cancer and their families through enhancing their emotional, social and medical well-being.

Founded in 1992, CCF provides children with cancer and their families the much needed support in their battle against the life-threatening illness. Over the years, CCF has helped more than 3,500 children and their families at different stages of the illness and recovery. Find out more at <https://www.ccf.org.sg/>.

### **CCF's 30th Anniversary**



In 2022, CCF commemorates 30 years of redefining childhood cancer care for children and families affected by cancer. To mark our commitment to the CCF mission, the design of our anniversary logo centres on our purpose, who we serve and how we deliver.

The many smiling faces represent our children who are at the heart of why we do what we do. The helping hands make up our staff team who are always within an arm's reach, the beating hearts promises passion and only our best work. And CCF's Specialist Clinic programmes – art, play and animal-assisted therapy – allow the voices of our children to be heard.

The logo encapsulates not only the 30 years of achievements in journeying with our children but also our 30-year promise of a progressive care model that continues to listen to the needs of our beneficiaries.

### **For media enquiries, please contact:**

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**Ms Retna Devi**  
**Assistant Manager, Communications**  
Contact: 8113 9184  
Email: [retna.devi@ccf.org.sg](mailto:retna.devi@ccf.org.sg)

**Ms Ng Siao Sze**  
**Assistant Director, Community Partnerships**  
Contact: 9633 7322  
Email: [ng.siaosze@ccf.org.sg](mailto:ng.siaosze@ccf.org.sg)