

PRESS RELEASE 06 JANUARY 2021, 3 PM

FIRE INCIDENT AT HCA HOSPICE CARE HEADQUARTERS

On 5 January 2021 at 8.26pm, a fire broke out at HCA Hospice Care Headquarters, located at Block A of Kwong Wai Shui Hospital on Serangoon Road. The Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) was activated and they arrived within minutes. The fire was contained and as no one was at the HCA office at the time of the fire, there were no casualties.

The SCDF Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) is conducting a thorough investigation of the incident to determine the cause of the fire and results are pending. They have since deemed the building and levels occupied by HCA, to be structurally safe for entry.

Based on the extent of the damage, the HCA admin office is expected to be closed for at least two months to facilitate cleaning and recovery efforts. All operations staff stationed at HCA Headquarters will work from home, while the affected clinical staff will be relocated to our level 2 office at HQ.

Our Day Hospice at HCA HQ will be closed from today onwards until 1 February 2021 (Monday). Our Day Hospice patients will be cared for at home and meals will be delivered to those in need. All patients and their families have been notified of the incident.

"We would like to assure our staff, volunteers, patients and their families that while we are managing the damage and working towards full recovery of operations caused by this unfortunate incident, our commitment to serve terminally-ill patients in their homes remains strong. I would like to affirm that there will be no disruption to our home care services for adult and pediatric patients. Our Kang Le Day Hospice will continue to be in operation. We thank the public and our community partners for their concern and well wishes and the SCDF central team for their timely response," shared Ms Angeline Wee, CEO of HCA Hospice Care.

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About HCA Hospice Care

HCA Hospice Care (HCA) is Singapore's largest home hospice care provider and is a registered charity since 1989. The organisation provides comfort and support to patients with life-limiting illnesses regardless of age, religion, ethnicity, nationality and financial status.

HCA's core service, home hospice care, is provided at no charge to about 3,100 patients annually. Its other services and programmes include day hospice care, paediatric palliative care (Star PALS), bereavement support and outreach programmes such as the Young Caregivers Programme (yCG). Find out more at www.hca.org.sg.