



[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY: NURSE CYCLES TO FUNDRAISE FOR CHILDREN WITH LIFE-LIMITING ILLNESS

“Tears and heartbreaks are big part of our job. It might be sad but there are bright lights everywhere – the children’s resilience and their parents’ love. I often tell myself to be courageous and to be prepared for uncertainty.”

Nurse Poh Ya Nee

HCA Star PALS Palliative Care Nurse Poh Ya Nee has persisted over the years, as she faced the deaths of her young patients with life-limiting illness.

Star PALS (Paediatric Advanced Life Support) is a service provided by HCA Hospice Care (HCA), to improve the quality of life for children and minors up to 19 years of age, with life-threatening or life-limiting conditions. This may range from neurological or congenital conditions to childhood cancers. This service is provided free of charge.

Nurse Ya Nee added, this time with a renewed sense of determination,

*“It is indeed a job that requires us to love openly and bid farewell readily. Every single minute matters. I’m cycling to tell their stories, of their courage, of their hopes and dreams. **It’s not about dying, it’s about living.**”*

Nurse Ya Nee truly exemplifies the spirit of going beyond the call of duty.

A marketing professional-turned-nurse, she was one of the first riders and staff to sign up for The Dandelion Ride, dedicating time and effort outside of work to raise awareness of the cause among her friends and family.

Collectively, the Star PALS team has raised almost \$10,000 in two months from 96 donors. Nurse Ya Nee alone has raised more than S\$3800. Inspired by Ya Nee’s passion and dedication to her young patients, the mother of a pair of siblings under the care of Star PALS team – Jeng Yu and Isaac donated S\$500 in her children’s name.

“Thank you for doing this for our Star PALS children Ya Nee! You are one in a million! May you be richly blessed in return for your love and compassion!”

Jeng Yu and Isaac
HCA Beneficiaries



The Dandelion Ride is a cycling-fundraising event organized by HCA. The event aims to raise \$300,000 for 1,000 home visits to provide care and comfort for patients with life limiting illnesses, so that patients can spend their last days with dignity at home, in the presence of their loved ones. The event has raised about S\$190,000 to date, allowing us to make just over 600 home visits.

The Dandelion Ride Details

Date: 12 October 2019, Saturday

Time: 6am

Venue: Great Eastern Centre, 1 Pickering Street Singapore 048659

Venue Sponsor: Great Eastern Life

Celebrity Rider: Gurmit Singh

Media profiles of Nurse Ya Nee as well HCA beneficiary, Jeng Yu and Issac are appended to the press release. Media interviews can be arranged with prior notice.

For media enquiries, please contact:

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ABOUT HCA HOSPICE CARE

HCA Hospice Care (HCA) is Singapore's largest home hospice provider and has been 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.

All of HCA's services are provided at no charge, serving about 3,600 patients annually. HCA's core service – home hospice care, provides medical care for patients, as well as psychosocial support for patients and caregivers. A 24/7 hotline ensures help is available round-the-clock.

HCA is a NCSS Centre of Specialisation for palliative care, and conducts palliative care training for its patients' caregivers. 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.

Find out more at www.hca.org.sg.