



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HCA Hospice Marks 35th Anniversary with \$5.5M Fundraising Milestone *Community Support Highlights the Growing Importance of Home Palliative Care Amid Singapore's Ageing Society*

SINGAPORE, 15 JANUARY – In an inspiring show of community support, HCA Hospice (HCA) celebrated its 35th anniversary in 2024 and concluded the year with a fundraising milestone of \$5.5M that will go towards serving patients with life-limiting conditions and their families. The funds raised will help ensure that HCA can continue providing vital care, support, and comfort to those in need, while sustaining our essential services and day-to-day operations.

As the largest home hospice provider in Singapore, HCA provides compassionate care and comfort to more than half of Singapore's home hospice patients regardless of age, religion, ethnicity, nationality and financial status at no charge. Last year, HCA made over 43,000 home visits and saw 12,140 day hospice attendances at **Oasis@Outram** and **Kang Le** at Marsiling. **Star PALS (Paediatric Advanced Life Support)**, a service provided by HCA and the only paediatric palliative home care programme in Singapore registered a total of 3,556 home visits, serving over 130 young patients. HCA also provides care that extends beyond the medical and psychosocial to include bereavement support even after the patient has passed and the organisation is fully reliant on public philanthropy through donations and volunteers, and government grants.

"We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of support from the community who have chosen to journey with HCA and our patients, be it by donating, volunteering, advocating for our cause, or simply participating in HCA's events," said Dr Chong Poh Heng, Medical Director, HCA Hospice. "With the community's support, HCA can continue to expand its services to ensure that more individuals can live their final days surrounded by the love and warmth of family, creating lasting memories that will live on."

On Your Terms, In Your Space

HCA advocates for comfort and dignity at the end-of-life stage by championing a patient-centered and family-focused model of care. This approach emphasises quality of life and ensures that both patients and their families are cared for on their own terms and in the comfort of their homes.

Leveraging its position as Singapore's largest home hospice provider, HCA leads transformative changes in the palliative care landscape and has helped 83% of the 4,158 patients served in 2024 to pass on in their place of choice. A key example is the introduction of weekend compassionate discharge services, addressing the evolving needs of patients and their families during critical end-of-life moments. Beyond this service, HCA also offers a comprehensive bereavement programme including grief counselling, spiritual support and remembrance and memorial services.



Growing Community Support for the Cause

In celebration of the milestone 35th anniversary last year, HCA organised three key fundraising initiatives for the community to have A Good Day With HCA. On 11 September, 132 golfers enjoyed a friendly competition on Sentosa Golf Club's Serapong course before an evening of spirited bidding at a live auction at the **HCA Swing With Me Charity Golf**.

On 20 October, the **HCA Walk With Me Charity Walkathon** saw over 1,300 participants braving the rain to complete a 6km route at Marina Barrage with Guest-of-Honour Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for Health. Recognising how the need for palliative care impacts everyone in Singapore, each participant pledged to be a community fundraiser as they walked in solidarity alongside HCA's patients, caregivers, staff, and community.

The **HCA Dazzle With Me Charity Gala** which was held on 3 November and was graced by Guest-of-Honour DPM Heng Swee Keat saw 650 guests in attendance. At the dinner event, HCA also debuted the specially commissioned song, "Holding Hands", which explores three different perspectives of people who each have a unique, but powerful connection to a patient at the end of their life. Performed by local talents Benjamin Kheng, Lim Yu-Beng, and Nadya Zaheer, the song celebrates the special moments in one's life and dispels the misconceptions around death and dying, showing how the simple act of holding hands can remind people that they are not alone even in the final chapter of their lives.

For the fruitful year, HCA extends its heartfelt gratitude to its generous donors and advocates who have journeyed alongside the organisation and its cause for the past 35 years, and looks forward to working with the community in the years ahead.

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About HCA Hospice

Each year, HCA Hospice makes over 43,000 home visits, serving more than half of Singapore's home hospice patients and their families. Our care extends beyond the medical and psychosocial support we provide, as we journey alongside them throughout this end-of-life chapter, providing bereavement support even after the patient has passed.

HCA's range of services cater to individuals of all ages, from infants to the elderly, and includes a day hospice programme, as well as the only paediatric palliative home care programme in Singapore, Star PALS (Paediatric Advanced Life Support). All of HCA's services are provided at no charge to patients, enabled by philanthropy and government grants.



At the heart of HCA are the human connections forged with patients, families, donors and volunteers. We believe that life should be celebrated at its end, and advocate for the dignity, diversity, and development of an individual through a patient-centered and family-focused model of care, making each day A Good Day with HCA.

For more information, visit www.hca.org.sg.