



The Helping Hand

“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest” Matthew 11:28

Jan - Mar 2021 MCI (P) 022/12/2020



CEO's Message

2020 has been an unparalleled year of challenges for The Helping Hand (“THH”), but it has also presented opportunities in our rehabilitation work as a Christ-centered, Bible-based, and grace-oriented halfway house. Covid-19 has impacted the lives of everyone, as well as businesses. While the pandemic has adversely affected our social enterprise business activities of house removal services and furniture sales, it has at the same time benefited our spiritual therapy from the creation of smaller prayer and devotion groups which have enabled the Chaplaincy to reach out to our residents more effectively and personally.

We thank God for enabling THH to pivot to new work therapy programs with the generous help of partners such as My Bike Shop (training our residents as bike mechanics) and ComCrop (training our residents in urban farming). We also started a line of home-baked goodies - all thanks to CerealTech School of Baking for imparting baking skills to our residents and Mok Lee Bakery Machinery Pte Ltd for providing us two ovens. We are currently seeking the necessary approvals to launch a cafe on our premises, serving fresh leafy greens from our on-site urban farm.

I would like to recognise the strong support we have received from Singapore Prison Services (“SPS”). This close working relationship with SPS has enabled a smooth and seamless transition for our residents as they serve out the remainder of their prison term with us.

We are grateful for the collaboration and alliances forged with our many stakeholders in providing the vital link between THH and society. This after care and step-down support given to our residents after they complete their program with us provides the essential post rehabilitation structure that helps steer them away from the temptations of this world and remove the stigmatism they face during reintegration.

Please consider collaborating with us in one or more of the following ways:

1. **Provide** employment, traineeships or internships for our Residents;
2. **Purchase** from us furniture or home-baked goodies;
3. **Engage** us for our house removal, painting, or cleaning services;
4. **Partner** with us as a programme partner, to enable the transfer of skills to our Residents; and/or
5. **Make** a tax-deductible donation. We are an Institution of Public Character and all donations enjoy 250% tax exemption.

On behalf of the residents and staff at The Helping Hand, I thank you all for your partnership, patronage, and prayers.

Mervyn Lim
CEO

IN CHRIST ALONE

SHARING @ BETHESDA HALL DEPOT WALK



On 28 February 2021, our CEO Mervyn Lim, who is a member of Bethesda Hall Depot Walk ("BDW"), as well as ED Richard Khalil and the Chaplaincy team were invited by BDW's Mission's Committee to share about the ministry of The Helping Hand ("THH") to their assembly members.

The sharing began at 1130am with Mervyn thanking the church for giving THH the opportunity to share about its ministry. This was followed by a corporate video of THH after which Richard went through a slide presentation elaborating on THH's vision, mission, four-fold therapy, and needs.

After the sharing, the THH team presented 2 songs, Amazing Grace (My chains are gone) and a Hokkien song called Hold My Hand. This was preceded by a testimony by Brother Vincent Tan on how God had transformed his life and brought him out of the miry pit into a life full of promises and hope. To close the assembly, there was a Q & A session with the assembly members.



We thank God for giving us this wonderful opportunity to share about the ministry of THH to BDW's assembly members and we pray that they will have a better understanding of our ministry. We hope that God will touch their hearts to come and support us in our mission to deliver those trapped in the bondage of drugs and crime by the power of the gospel.

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ." – I Corinthians 12:12

MY BIKE SHOP OJT PROGRAMME



Focusing on a holistic approach towards life transformation, The Helping Hand ("THH") offers support to our residents through our four-fold therapeutic programmes that enable them to be gainfully employed. This is crucial to help keep



our residents from straying back to a life of crime and vice. Life is defined by continuous change.

In Sep. 2020, a collaboration between My Bike Shop

("MBS") and THH was formalised.

This on-the-job training ("OJT") programme provides our residents the opportunity to work in various positions at MBS during their programme with THH. Training is provided and the residents will be taught bicycle assembly, servicing, and retailing. These valuable skills will provide them with more opportunities for employment in the future.

The residents work from 11am – 5pm for 6 days a week, with Sundays off, and this arrangement allows for them to participate in our morning devotions and evening in-house programmes.

There are presently 2 outlets they are assigned to:

Outlet 1: 213 Henderson Road, #01-06, Singapore 159553

Outlet 2: 9 Yishun Industrial Street 1, #01-77, Northspring Bizhub, Singapore 768163



My Bike Shop has a growing community of cyclists who are actively involved in rides and events. The residents who undergo this OJT programme with MBS can eventually find a future career with MBS. We want to thank Mr Alan Wong from MBS for his willingness to work with us in our efforts to help mend broken lives and direct them to a brighter future.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR BROTHER, LIK



My eldest brother, Kuan Kiong Lik, loved working in The Helping Hand as a carpenter. He was good at his craft and received many compliments from his colleagues and customers. With sadness yet gratitude, Lik went to be with the Lord on 23 September 2020.

In Christ alone: There is hope

For years, it was a great struggle for Lik to overcome his weaknesses and live a life free from the world's vices. Although he received Christ in 2000, he was not completely set free until he had a personal encounter with God.



One night, Lik was alone, sick and on the brink of death. He knew that only God could save him, and he cried out for His mercy and forgiveness. Completely surrendering himself to God's authority, our merciful God extended Lik's life and revealed Isaiah 55:8-9 to him.

His thoughts and ways are higher than ours. In Christ alone, there was hope in Lik's life once again.



In Christ alone: There is transformation

Through the years, Lik clung on to His word and this divine encounter. His spirit-filled life began a reconciliation work in our family, especially my dad, who longed for his weekly visits.

Words cannot express how grateful I was to God to see Lik accompany our parents to church every Sunday. Our weekly family gathering was such a precious memory and a constant reminder of God's goodness to us. Lik's life was transformed and the relationship between him and our father was restored. In October 2019, the Lord took my dad home and Lik was the only one by his side.



In Christ alone: There is victory

Lik told us he was then determined to follow Christ, and no turning back this time. He also understood the importance of Christian fellowship and family support. We are very thankful to Helping Hand for providing support, counseling, life-skills learning and work opportunities to him. The morning devotion rooted him in God's word, which in turn helped establish his faith in Christ.



Being able to serve God in The Helping Hand and church helped Lik live a Christ-centered life purposefully and victoriously.

In Christ alone: There is no fear in death

Letting go of Lik is indeed painful for our family as we truly enjoyed his company.

Before he went into a coma, Lik kept saying he was at the "Church garden". This continued for a few days until he went into the ICU and returned to the Lord. At least four times during this period, God affirmed us with Isaiah 55:8-9 about His mysterious ways.

God's plan and timing is always perfect. For these past five years, Lik was given an extended time to restore what he had lost and a chance to make everything right.

Lik is in a better place with my dad now. He has fought the good fight, he has finished the race, and he has remained faithful.

We miss you Lik, and we will meet again in heaven. - Jacqueline Kuan



CEO's Message

2020 年对援手之手（“THH”）来说，是前所未有的挑战的一年。但是，这也让我们有这么大的机会，显示出我们中途之家是以基督为中心来提供康复事工，以圣经为基础和恩典为导向的机构。在冠状病毒的笼罩影响下，大大的打击了我们社会企业服务，尤其是我们的搬运服务和家具售卖部。然而，我们在属灵疗程操练上却获益不浅。教牧部的同工们透过开设小组的团聚和祷告，促使教牧们更能亲自和有效的与学员接触。

我们感谢上帝使 THH 在 My Bike Shop（训练我们的学员为自行车修理技术工）和 ComCrop（训练我们的学员从事城市耕作）等合作伙伴的慷慨帮助下，使 THH 能够转向新的工作疗程计划。我们也开始了一系列家庭式烘焙的糕点，这一切都要归功于 CerealTech School of Baking 烘焙学校向学员传授烘焙技能，并感谢 Mok Lee 烘焙器材机械公司为我们提供了两台烘烤炉。我们目前也正在寻求有关当局的批准，以便我们在不久的将来在中心开设一家咖啡座，并为大家提供我们的城市农场内的新鲜绿叶蔬。

我要肯定和赞扬新加坡监狱署（“SPS”）给予我们的鼎力支持。我们的密切合作关系更能使我们为学员提供流畅和无缝隙的交接服务并与他们一起服完剩余的过渡刑期。

我们也要感谢能与各相关的营利机构联盟，合作与配搭，并为 THH 提供了与社会联系的关键链接。当学员在 THH 结束疗程后，为他们提供了基要的善后和逐步康复计划，这有助于引导他们远离世界的诱惑，并抹去他们重返社会时所面对的羞耻恶名。

请考虑通过以下一种或多种方式与我们合作：

1. 为我们的学员提供就业，培训和实习训练技能；
2. 选购我们的家具或家庭式的烘焙点心；
3. 雇用我们的搬运，油漆或清洁服务。
4. 成为我们疗程的合作伙伴，提供传授技能予学员；和/或
5. 捐款支持，援手之家是公益机构，所有捐款可享受 2.5 倍的税务回扣。

我谨代表“援手之家”的同工和学员，感谢所有的合作伙伴，赞助商和您的祷告。

Mervyn Lim
CEO

IN CHRIST ALONE

The Helping Hand

Panel of Advisors:

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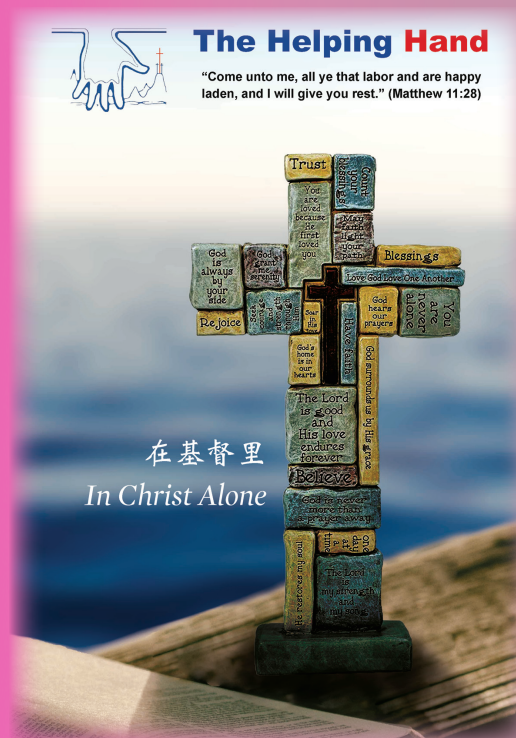
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Pray With Us

The Helping Hand's prayer requests and needs

1. Pray for unity and harmony amongst staff as they continued to serve the Lord and to lead exemplary lives that will encourage the residents and glorified our God in heaven.
2. Pray for all residents walking through the gates of The Helping Hand, to experience the amazing love of our Lord Jesus Christ.
3. Pray for God's blessings to be upon our Social Enterprise Activities for the sustenance of our ministry.
4. Pray for protection for all those going for their Covid-19 vaccinations. Bodily strength to cope with any possible side effects.
5. Pray for God to lead and guide us for 2021 to ensure that everything that THH does will be according to His will and for His glory.

S/No	Items	Amount
1	Production of THH 34 th Anniversary Magazine 2021	\$10,000
2	Holy Bible / Christian Literature	\$3,000
3	2 Washing Machines (Heavy Duty)	\$2,000

We are grateful to all the people who are being used by the Lord to provide for our needs. Your every act of generosity is deeply appreciated and is a great encouragement to us as we continue to labour for the Lord.

To donate, please scan the QR Code or click the link below.



<https://www.giving.sg/web/the-helping-hand>



Charity Reg: 000673/IPC: 000344/UEN: S88SS0058F

All Donations to The Helping Hand are tax-exempt

IN CHRIST ALONE