



Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd



YOU ARE THE KEY

A Member of
National Council of Social Service



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ABOUT US



“ A very little key
will open a very heavy door. ”

- Charles Dickens

INTRODUCTION

“ To change,
you must be the change you want to see. ”

- Mahatma Ghandi

Opening Doors

As a key to change, Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd (FRCS) is opening doors to new possibilities for our beneficiaries. We invite you to join us in unlocking the potential in all we meet, where they live. Established in 1993, FRCS is the charity arm of all Rotary Clubs in Singapore. Steering and spearheading various centres and community outreach programmes, we are catalysts for change in the community.

Initiating evidence-based programmes, FRCS Family Service Centre (FRCS FSC) serves vulnerable individuals and families in Clementi and West Coast. Rotary Learning Institute Singapore equips seniors and social service organizations to thrive. FRCS House offers space for Rotarians to brainstorm and initiate more community outreach projects. To be launched in 2021, FRCS Eldercare & Caregivers Centre will bring much needed services to residents in Bukit Gombak.

Unlocking Potential

Turn each page to meet people whose lives have been positively transformed through our efforts. Families are gaining insight through our *SuperHeroes!* programmes at FRCS FSC. People grappling with life's challenges are experiencing love and kindness through community outreach projects like Rotary My Wish and Meals From the Heart. By volunteering and contributing, our Rotarians' lives are touched too.

FRCS is an incubator of programmes that turn lives around. Started in 2015 by volunteer teachers, Project Starfish helped out-of-school youth return to formal education. Since offering them use of our premises for classes in 2019, we have been mentoring the youth. When the volunteer teachers decided to register Project Starfish as Society of Starfish Singapore, FRCS played a pivotal role by lending support to the process.

Transforming Communities

Not long after Rotary was founded in America in 1905, its first community service project was to build public toilets in downtown Chicago. Besides improving public hygiene, this allowed visitors to spend longer durations in the area, leading to a more vibrant neighbourhood and market place. In that tradition, FRCS continues today, seeking solutions to gaps in service or finding answers where the need is greatest. Ultimately, FRCS' goal is to promote peace and cultivate vibrant communities.

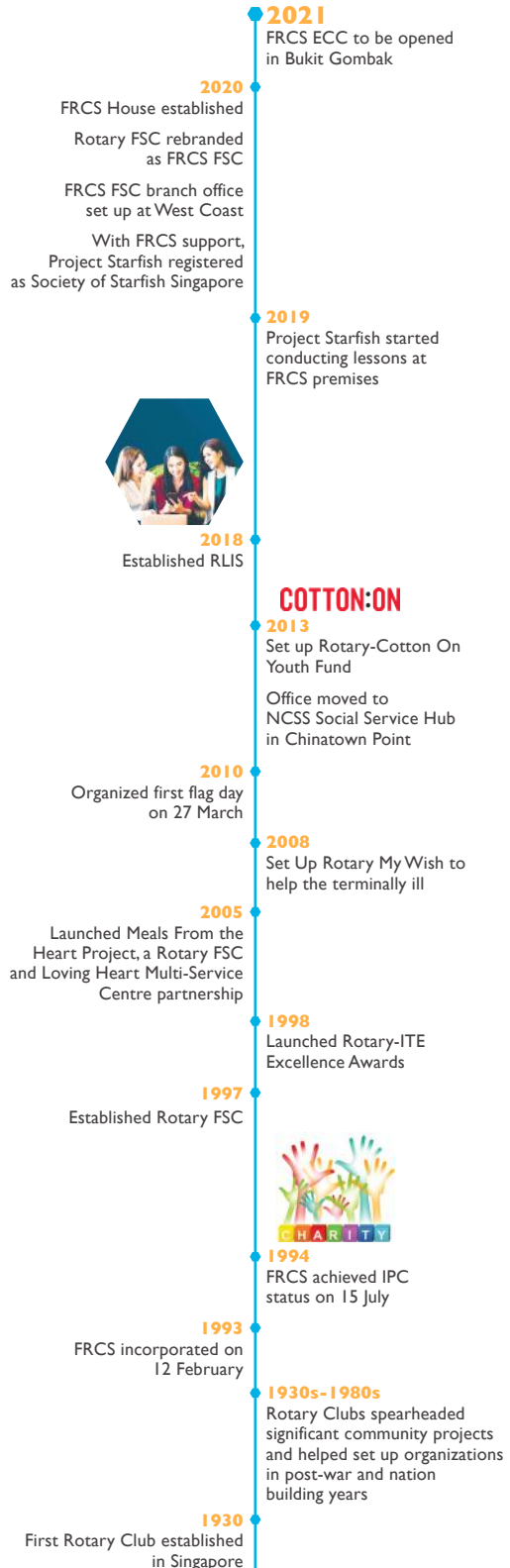
Working as one, let us be keys to change.

HISTORY

Incorporated on 12 February 1993, the role of FRCS was to strengthen Rotary Clubs' ability to take new steps in the spirit of our tradition to spearhead community service in Singapore. Already making their mark in the country since the early 1930s, Rotary Clubs have played a significant role in the founding of organizations such as The Singapore Anti-Tuberculosis Association, Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association, the Dyslexia Association of Singapore, and Singapore Cancer Society, among others.

All these initiatives were an expression of the commitment of Rotary Clubs in Singapore to the motto of Service Above Self, which we share with Rotary International, the worldwide organization founded by Paul Harris in Chicago on 23 February 1905. The first business organization to be established in America, it was started by four men with diverse professions, religions and ethnicities, who were however committed to friendship and the development of business. The organization encouraged professionals to form life-long relationships and serve in humanitarian projects. Taking turns to host meetings in their business premises, they called themselves Rotary.

Through the years, FRCS has championed a wide range of humanitarian and educational causes that help improve the well-being of individuals and families in Singapore. Achieving the status of Institute of Public Character (IPC) on 15 July 1994, allowed us to consolidate fundraising and service projects. We established Rotary Family Service Centre (Rotary FSC) in 1997, Rotary Learning Institute Singapore (RLIS) in 2018, and FRCS House in 2020. To be opened in 2021, FRCS Eldercare & Caregivers Centre (FRCS ECC) will serve the needs of an ageing population in Bukit Gombak. In 2020, Rotary FSC was rebranded as FRCS FSC. With these centres in the community and multiple community outreach projects islandwide, we are positioned to serve our people even more effectively in years to come.



BACKGROUND

Established in 1993, FRCS is the charity arm of all Rotary Clubs in the country. As an umbrella body that unites and represents Rotary Clubs across the nation, we pioneer and support humanitarian and educational projects to help those in need. We rally Rotarians to serve in the community, mobilizing their leadership skills and vocational expertise in projects that transform lives, and ultimately promote peace in society. FRCS and Rotary Clubs in Singapore are affiliates of Rotary International, an organization that has launched a worldwide movement of volunteerism and community service since its founding in 1905 in Chicago, USA.



MISSION

To unite, synergize and collaborate with Rotary Clubs to carry out humanitarian activities and projects.



VISION

To be a leading charity and service organization in Singapore, working with the Rotary movement to impact the community in Singapore and beyond.



VALUES

As an affiliate, FRCS shares the same values as Rotary International, and we live out our values by expressing them in the following manner.

Fellowship and Global Understanding

We build lifelong relationships.

Ethics and Integrity

We honour our commitments.

Diversity

We connect diverse perspectives.

Vocational Expertise, Service, and Leadership

We apply our leadership and expertise to solve social issues.

As part of our Rotarian tradition, we have incorporated the Rotary Wheel into the FRCS logo. Additionally, the Rotary Wheel features in the logos of all our centres. Symbolizing “Civilization, Movement, and Service Work in Action”, the Rotary Wheel expresses FRCS’ commitment to care for people in need in Singapore.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Funding and Support:

Donors and Well-wishers
 Rotarians, Rotary Clubs
 Agency for Integrated Care
 Community Chest
 Crocodile Foundation Ltd
 Lee Foundation
 Ministry of Social and Family Development
 SG Care & Share Movement
 Singapore Totalisator Board
 Voluntary Welfare Organization’s Capability Fund administered by National Council of Social Service

Reserve Policy:

By Board resolution, the FRCS’ reserve policy is set at two years’ expenses.

Auditors:

Messrs RSM Chio Lim LLP

Company Secretary:

Mr Eugene Yio of Gateway 21 Pte Ltd

Principal Banker:

DBS Bank Ltd, 12 Marina Boulevard, Marina Bay Financial Centre, Tower 3, Singapore 018983

Panel of Legal Advisors:

Mr Jeffrey Chan Wah Teck, S.C. – Former Deputy Solicitor, is currently an Adjunct Professor of the National University of Singapore as well as the Senior Director of TSMP Law Corporation. A Rotarian since 1989, he is a Past President of the Rotary Club of Raffles City as well as formerly an Assistant Governor of District 3310.

Mr Louis Lim, BBM – A Partner of William Poh & Louis Lim Advocates & Solicitors, Mr Lim is a member of Rotary Club of Singapore.

MEMBERS

Rotary Clubs in Singapore

The members of FRCS are all the 23 Rotary Clubs in Singapore.

CENTRAL

Rotary Club of Bugis Junction
 Rotary Club of Bukit Timah
 Rotary Club of Garden City
 Rotary Club of Kampong Gelam
 Rotary Club of Mount Sophia
 Rotary Club of Novena
 Rotary Club of Queenstown
 Rotary Club of Singapore
 Rotary Club of Singapore Heartlands
 Rotary Club of Tanglin
 Rotary E-Club of 3310

WEST

Rotary Club of Jurong Town
 Rotary Club of Singapore West

SOUTH

Rotary Club of Marina City
 Rotary Club of Pandan Valley
 Rotary Club of Raffles City
 Rotary Club of Sentosa
 Rotary Club of Shenton
 Rotary Club of Suntec City
 Rotary Club of Tanjong Pagar

NORTH

Rotary Club of Singapore North

EAST

Rotary Club of Changi
Rotary Club of Singapore East



The FRCS Board of Directors are elected from Rotary Clubs in Singapore and supported by full-time professional and administrative staff in the various centres.





Dr Philbert Chin
Chairman of the Board



Mr Chew Ghim Bock
1st Vice Chairman
FRCS Board of Directors

Be the Change You Want to See

“Change is the only constant. Founder of Rotary, Paul Harris, once said, ‘This is a changing world and we must change with it.’ But, this exhortation is not enough. Mahatma Ghandi said, ‘To change, you must be the change you want to see.’

At FRCS, we agree to be that change. As part of that transformation, we decided to publish this Corporate Profile on who we are, what we do, and what are our hopes and aspirations. Its purpose is to help our successors to manage FRCS, and for others to be assured of our commitment to governance and integrity. This is important because of our culture and tradition as Rotarians.

The action for change has begun!”

A Many Helping Hands Approach

“I am a trained computer scientist, but my interests are wide and varied. I have run and sold many businesses. As in business, I strongly believe in partnerships, connections and leveraging. We are greater than sum of all parts.

I am the current 1st Vice Chairman of the FRCS Board of Directors. I am also the current Chairman of Bukit Gombak Citizens’ Consultative Committee. FRCS has been actively looking to expand our service offerings, so when Bukit Gombak Community Centre moved to a new location, and the vacated premise became available for an eldercare and caregivers centre, I put both organizations together to meet a need in that community.

As I believe in a many helping hands approach, I am happy to be able to play a part in establishing a win-win model for FRCS, Bukit Gombak grassroots organizations (GROs), and its residents. We will also be working with the South West Community Development Council. FRCS Eldercare & Caregivers Centre is slated to be opened in early 2021. I have been a grassroots leader for close to 27 years, and I have about the same length of service in Rotary. This is not the first collaboration between Rotary and GROs. All parties’ objectives and interests are aligned, that is serving others.”



Dr Gong Ing San

Director - FRCS

Chairman, Fundraising Committee



Ms See Mee Lee

Director - FRCS

Honorary Treasurer



Mr Amran Jamil

Executive Director

FRCS FSC

Real Happiness is Helping Others

"I find meaning in the phrase: 'Real happiness is helping others'. A member of Rotary Club of Changi since 1988, I have served in various roles in both FRCS and my Rotary Club.

About two years ago, I took on the role of Chairman of the FRCS Fundraising Committee. My role is an important one. However, it takes a lot of effort and commitment. I am often encouraged by friends and colleagues who come forward to donate towards noteworthy causes. I am especially encouraged when younger members of our community volunteer their service on our Flag Day.

My wish is for our community and the world to know that FRCS is a charitable organisation worthy of their support."

Sharing Expertise From My Vocation

"I serve as the Honorary Treasurer on the FRCS Board of Directors. It has been a privilege to use my skills as an Accountant to carry out this role. I find meaning in sharing expertise from my vocation to improve FRCS operations and use of resources.

Acting as a watchdog over all aspects of the financial management of FRCS, the treasurer works closely with other committee members to safeguard the organization's finances.

Ultimately, serving in FRCS, it is seeing the smile of a beneficiary that warms my heart. Sometimes, when I look at how great the needs are, I wonder how much we can do. But, I start to realize that we can come together to move the community, one by one and a little by little, to help."

Linking to Resources

"As the Executive Director of FRCS FSC, the most meaningful aspect of my work is in supporting my colleagues as they help their clients manage life's challenges. I see myself as a broker who links my colleagues to resources that empower them to do their jobs. This is a process that parallels a Social Worker linking a client to resources so that he or she can cope better.

Our FSC Management Committee consists of compassionate people who genuinely care for our staff and those whom we serve. They often enquire about our staff and clients' well-being, and are always supportive of the efforts of the Centre to enhance policies to benefit staff and clients.

I deeply appreciate how Rotarians are willing to give money and time for a good cause. Rotarians are committed to doing good and shining light into others' lives. One of the greatest strengths of FRCS is its resilience as an organization. Despite many challenges, its members continue to band together and forge onward with the focus of giving to others, thus exemplifying its motto of Service Above Self."

OUR CENTRES

“ The fruit of love is service,
which is compassion in action. ”

- Mother Teresa



FRCS FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE

Established in 1997, FRCS Family Service Centre (FRCS FSC) is a division of Foundation of Rotary Clubs (Singapore) Ltd (FRCS). Serving the community as Rotary FSC for more than 20 years, the Centre was rebranded as FRCS FSC from January 2020 for a closer alignment with the brand identity of its parent organization.

We are a team of dedicated professionals who are trained and qualified to support individuals and families in need. We believe in upholding the dignity of persons that we serve, empowering them to achieve independence, stability, and resilience.

Objectives

- To strengthen the potential of individuals, families and groups of different concerns;
- To provide family-oriented programmes which are responsive to the changing needs of the community; and
- To collaborate with community organizations to improve social services for persons and their families who are in need

Services

- **Case Work** – to enable individuals and families to gain a deeper understanding of their personal, social or emotional issues, and to work towards resolving them
- **Group Work** – in the form of talks and workshops primarily for children, youth and parents, as well as other groups based on their needs
- **Community Work** – through outreach to residents and collaboration with partner organizations

FRCS FSC is supported by

- Community Chest
- Ministry of Social and Family Development
- National Council of Social Service
- Singapore Totalisator Board

**We nurture
the next generation**

> 135 children and
their families have been part of our
SuperFESTIVE! programmes
since 2016



**We empower
learning**

74 students
have benefitted from
SuperSTUDENTS! bursaries
and assistance
since 2017



🏠 Clementi Office (Main)
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Mdm Amelia
*a FRCS FSC client**

Help to Tide Us Through

"We were referred to the FSC by an officer at the shelter that we had lived in. After staying for four years at the shelter, we were allocated a rental flat in Clementi. However, we were still struggling when we shifted here. To my surprise, staff from the FSC visited us, offering help to tide us through that difficult period.

I was assigned to Ms Nursuhailah Abu Samat, a really helpful Social Worker. She applied for monthly food rations and the Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund for my kids. She also listened to all my problems, and I was comfortable with her. When she was not around, Senior Social Worker Mr Peter Li Zhaojie covered her duties. He was helpful too.

I am fortunate to have received help all these years from the FSC, with its friendly and concerned Social Workers. As my kids have grown up, I am trying hard to be self-reliant. But, I hope the community can continue to give donations so that beneficiaries can get help when in need. Thanks for helping me and my big family when we were down."



Ms Madeline Krishnasamy
Social Worker
FRCS FSC

Assist, Equip, Empower

"As a Social Worker, I think it is important to help individuals and families to overcome their challenges as they may lack the resources or means to solve their own issues. Individuals and communities form the world we live in. Some of us may require more assistance or resources.

At FRCS FSC, we are happy to play a part to assist and equip people with the relevant resources. Our actions serve as a bridge, allowing clients to feel empowered to evaluate their options and aid themselves when facing challenges in the future. I believe we are just reminding them of the great capabilities that they already possess."



Ms Angela Chin
Honorary Treasurer
FRCS FSC Management Committee

Removing Barriers to Learning

"We organized Rotary Family Learning Day on 29 June 2019 to build awareness on the importance of lifelong learning among FRCS FSC beneficiaries. Jointly organized by FRCS FSC and Rotary Club of Singapore East, with support from South West Community Development Council and e2i; Rotary Learning Day allowed the FSC clients and their children to attend workshops together.

Through two workshops, we introduced the parents to national initiatives that support skills upgrading for individuals. Additionally, the children learnt about relational thinking through a cartoon drawing workshop. It was touching to watch the children engaged in the programme. Sharing and helping one another. To remove barriers to learning, we conducted the adult and children workshops concurrently. Through my over 30 years as a Residents' Committee volunteer, I have come to understand that oftentimes parents want to step out to learn, but they do not proceed as there is no one to take care of the children. It is teamwork that made Rotary Learning Day successful. I deeply appreciate fellow Rotary Club members for their time, guiding and serving the beneficiaries."

*The name of the client has been changed to protect her privacy. Republished from Rotary FSC Annual Report FY 2018/2019

FRCS ELDERCARE & CAREGIVERS CENTRE

Scheduled for launch in early 2021, FRCS Eldercare & Caregivers Centre (FRCS ECC) is a division of FRCS. We offer a physical space custom-fit for the elderly and caregivers in Bukit Batok West Avenue 5 to gather, socialize, and receive support services. We are positioned to serve 2,500 seniors and other residents in the 13 HDB blocks in the area. Using a three-pronged approach of Support, Nurture and Wellness, we aim to establish communities of seniors and caregivers thriving with care, connection, and compassion.

Objectives

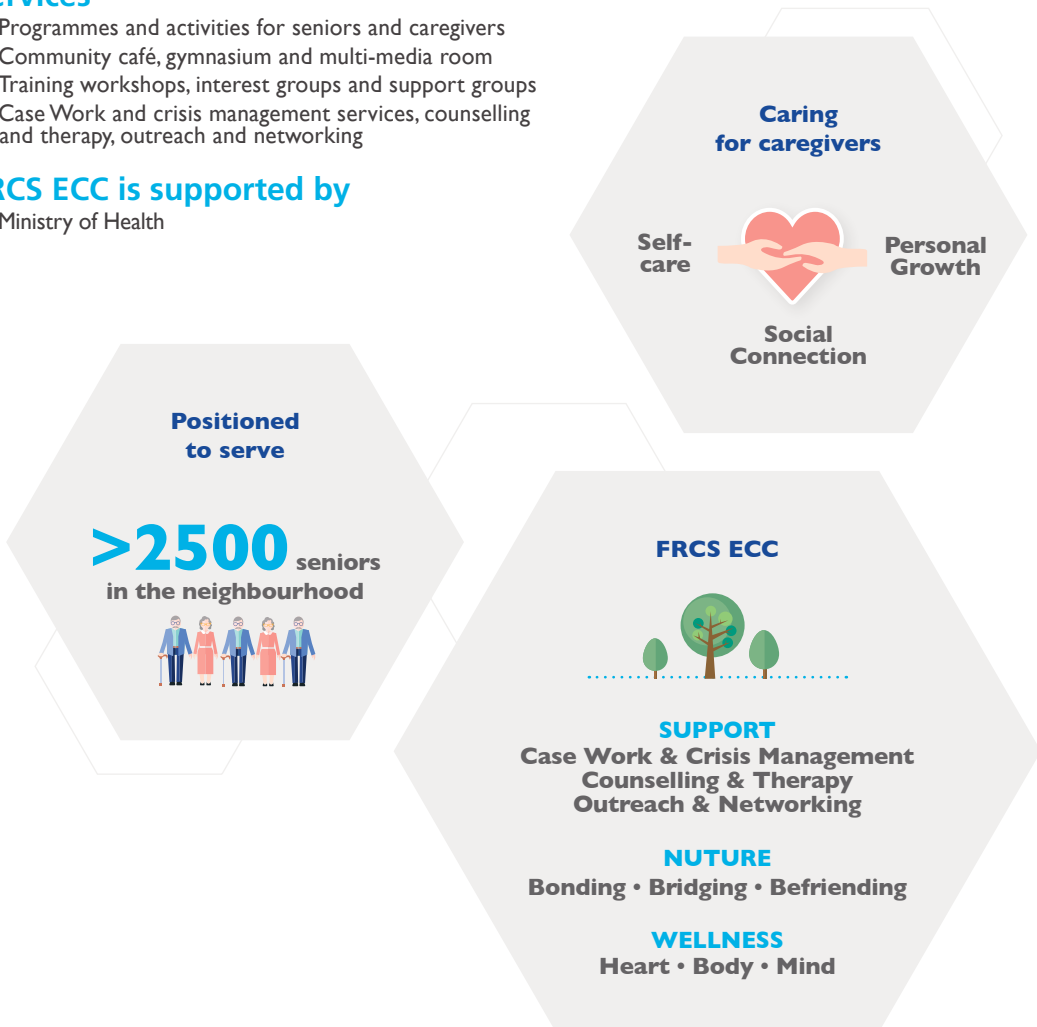
- To support the elderly, age 60 and above, through programmes offering social interaction, advice on physical health, and mental health support
- To support caregivers through programmes focusing on self-care, social connection, employment, and personal growth
- To extend professional support services in collaboration with Voluntary Welfare Organizations, Health Promotion Board as well as government and private hospitals, to the elderly, caregivers, and the wider community

Services

- Programmes and activities for seniors and caregivers
- Community café, gymnasium and multi-media room
- Training workshops, interest groups and support groups
- Case Work and crisis management services, counselling and therapy, outreach and networking

FRCS ECC is supported by

- Ministry of Health



To be opened in **2021**

📍 Blk 386 Bukit Batok West Avenue 5 #01-348/360 Singapore 650386

🌐 www.rotarysingaporefoundation.org

✉ foundation@rotarysingaporefoundation.org



Seniors*



Caregivers*



Mr Yeo Chuen Eng

Director - FRCS

Chairman, FRCS FSC Management Committee

Chairman, FRCS ECC Management Committee

A Space for Social Bonding

"We are keen to participate and volunteer in activities that will enhance social bonding among ourselves and with others in the community. If we have a community café at the centre. It will allow us to connect with one another and people of different ages in the neighbourhood. As seniors, we are naturally concerned about our health and financial matters. We would like to attend talks on these issues too."

Self-care and Caregiving

"It is essential for us to practise self-care. In terms of training, we want to improve in our caregiving abilities. At the same time, in the event that we need to return to the workforce, we recognize that personal development is important too. While we have caregiving duties, we are also keen to volunteer in activities that will promote the well-being of the community."

Tackling the Challenge of an Ageing Population

"FRCS with its members comprising 23 Rotary Clubs in Singapore, has long wanted to expand its physical footprint. In addition to the FRCS FSC offices at Clementi and West Coast, we are now glad to have another centre at Bukit Batok to serve the community. FRCS ECC will offer Rotarians in Singapore the opportunity to serve the needs of our growing population of seniors and their caregivers."

We will involve our affiliated volunteer groups, our youth groups such as Interactors and Rotaractors, as well as students from schools we serve. Their role is to befriend, educate and cheer the seniors. In this endeavour, we hope all Rotarians in Singapore will unite to make an impactful contribution towards this national cause to tackle the challenge of the tsunami of an ageing population, in the coming years."

**Sentiments shared by seniors and caregivers residing in Bukit Batok West Avenue 5 through a needs assessment survey conducted in 2019*

ROTARY LEARNING INSTITUTE SINGAPORE

Launched in January 2018, Rotary Learning Institute Singapore (RLIS) is a division of FRCS. We are a social enterprise offering courses for seniors aged 50 and above and non-profit organizations (NPOs). Our goal is to empower these seniors and NPOs through self-development and skills to better serve in the community. An approved National Silver Academy (NSA) provider by the Council for Third Age, we run courses for seniors with a focus on life transition and personal growth. Reviewed by National Council of Social Service, our NPO training courses are partially funded by the Voluntary Welfare Organization's Charities Capability Fund.

Objectives

- Enhance well-being of seniors through self-development
- Empower staff and volunteers of NPOs to serve more effectively
- Design a range of courses to equip learners to serve in the community

Courses

- **For Seniors** – We offer courses that enhance life skills and work skills. Seniors in the community, aged 50 and above, are eligible for subsidies for these courses
- **For NPOs** – We offer non-governance courses for volunteers and operational staff of charities, as well as governance courses for managers, executives and board members
- **Others** – Corporate Courses, Community Programmes, Online Talks, Fireside Chats

Member of

- National Council of Social Service
- National Silver Academy

RLIS is a Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) Approved Training Organization.



📍 111 North Bridge Road #06-33 Peninsula Plaza Singapore 179098

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☎ +65 6256 1983

✉ contact@rlis.sg



Ms Elsie Chua

RLIS Management Committee

Chairwoman, Corporate & Marketing Communications Committee

“ The vision of RLIS is aligned with my desire to better serve our community. ”

A Vision to Better Serve Our Community

“I took on the role as Chair for Corporate & Marketing Communications Committee in RLIS, as it is a social enterprise offering learning programmes for the community. The vision of RLIS is aligned with my desire to better serve our community.

Before I retired from my last corporate role as Chief Marketing Officer at a media company, I held leadership positions in managing various small, medium and large organizations. Presently, aside from my role in communications for RLIS, I am also a facilitator in various training programmes.

Facilitating training programmes has been meaningful. Offering a course for seniors on cybersecurity, I guided them on how to keep their money safe, pointing out how to avoid scams and theft to their retirement funds. With many seniors using digital devices, I was gratified that they were now more educated on cybersecurity risks and ways to keep their passwords secure.

I have been a member of Rotary Club of Pandan Valley (RCPV) since 2010. Rotary has given me the opportunity to do good in the community with RCPV members who are similarly passionate in contributing their vocational skills and financial resources for a common goal.

Rotary unites more than a million people internationally. Together, we see a world where people work hand-in-hand to take action to create lasting change —across country borders, in our communities, and in ourselves. As FRCS is a part of Rotary, I would love the organization to attain these same goals.”



FRCS HOUSE

Launched in 2020, FRCS House is a hub where Rotarians gather for a wide range of service-oriented activities such as club meetings, training programmes, volunteer projects, and fundraising events. It is also a space for Rotarians to explore possibilities, exchange ideas and initiate community outreach projects. To bolster Rotary Clubs' administrative capabilities, FRCS House offers secretariat services, providing an address for them to run programmes and projects. Designed for multi-purpose use, the space offers rooms that can be configured to a suitable size for the group. Additionally, FRCS House is a repository of historical documents on Rotary in Singapore.

Objectives

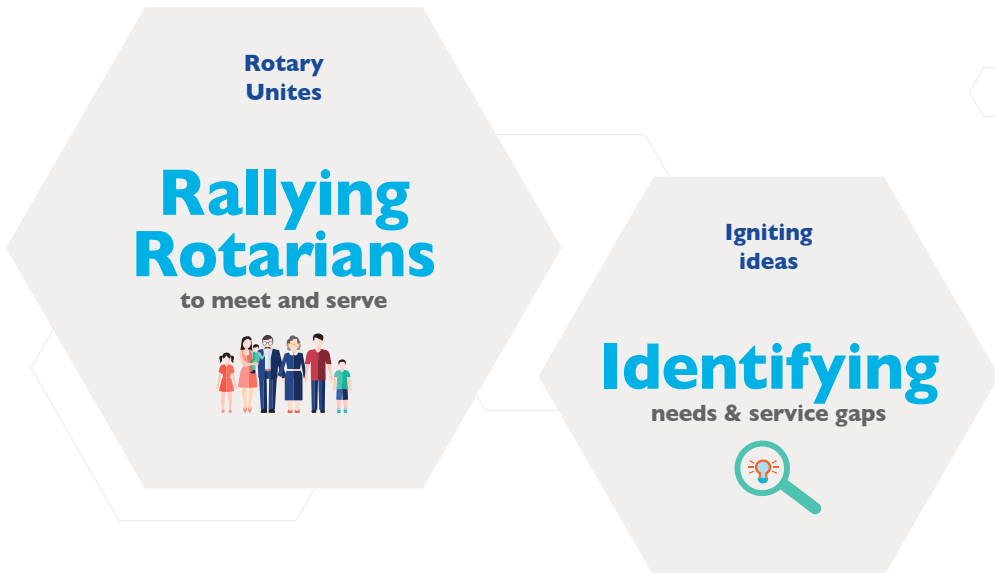
- To act as a go-to hub for Rotarians for service-oriented activities
- To empower Rotary Clubs to run programmes and service projects with the motto of Service Above Self
- To increase visibility of Rotary through active volunteerism of our members

Services

- **Meeting Venue** – Use of facilities at subsidized rates to encourage Rotary Clubs to run meetings and service projects
- **Training Programmes** – Workshops and seminars that equip Rotarians to serve more effectively in the community
- **Fellowship Events** – Rallying Rotarians across clubs to interact and establish strong bonds, as fellowship events often spark ideas for service projects requiring more than one club

FRCS House is made possible by

- Donations by Rotarians, friends and family of Rotarians, donors and well-wishers
- SG50 Care & Share Movement



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The Late Dr Robert Loh
District Governor 1991 to 1992



Datuk Tan Hian Tsin
Founder
Crocodile Foundation Ltd



Mr Roger Ng
Director - FRCS
Chairman,
FRCS House Management Committee

Rotary's Involvement in Community Development

"A home for Rotary in Singapore is very necessary if Rotarians believe that the service we are performing for the community is important and vital. It will serve as an office, as a communication and planning centre, as a meeting place for all Rotarians in Singapore, and what is perhaps most important of all, a testimony to Rotary's involvement in the community development of our nation."

Partners in Caring for Others

"Many community outreach projects in Singapore have been made possible by the close partnership between Crocodile Foundation and FRCS. As a homegrown organization like FRCS, Crocodile Foundation appreciates the opportunity to play our part in contributing to much needed services in our country. Doing so, we stand united with FRCS to care for the beneficiaries."

Sparkling Ideas for Service Projects

"My dream is for FRCS House to be the go-to place for all Rotarians to meet, gather, and brainstorm ideas for social services in Singapore. FRCS House is an ideal place for Rotary Clubs to hold project meetings, organize fundraising activities, conduct classes, and run impactful programmes such as Project Starfish that gets youth back to school."

Ultimately, I hope that FRCS house can be a place for all Rotarians in Singapore. Currently, many Rotary Clubs conduct their meetings in hotel function rooms. However, the cost of such meetings will only increase over time, making it difficult for especially the smaller Rotary Clubs to afford. FRCS House offers every Rotary Club a venue for its service projects, meetings, fellowships, and activities."

JOIN LEADERS
.....
EXCHANGE IDEAS
.....
TAKE ACTION



OUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

“ Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world. ”

- Harriet Tubman



HEALTHCARE AND DISEASE PREVENTION

Since the dawn of the Rotary movement in Singapore in the 1930s, we have been keenly concerned about healthcare and disease prevention. We share about two ongoing projects which alleviate suffering and help those in need today.

Rotary My Wish

Started in 2009, Rotary My Wish helps fulfil the wishes of underprivileged, terminally ill adults. Working with doctors and medical social workers, we identify beneficiaries, so that we may look into what they hope to achieve or experience. Conceptualized by the Rotary E-Club of 3310, Rotary My Wish has been granting the wishes of patients for more than a decade. Besides organizing fundraising events, Rotary E-Club of 3310 partners with sponsors to help fulfil our beneficiaries' wishes.

Collaboration with Crohn's and Colitis Society of Singapore (CCSS)

Since 2012, we have been supporting CCSS to help people living with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD). We are involved in three main areas of CCSS activities: patient support groups, public awareness events, and fundraising events. Volunteering at patient support groups, allows us to interact with people with IBD and better understand their needs. We also help to organize public awareness events headlined by top experts in the field. Our fundraising efforts go a long way to ease the financial and emotional burden of CCSS beneficiaries, especially that of children with IBD.

“What touches me is that the beneficiaries always have the well-being of their family in mind when they let us know their wish requests. They usually ask for relatively simple things; hoping to buy something for the family or to spend time together doing something memorable. For example, a beneficiary asked for a family portrait to be taken, while another wanted the house painted so that he can leave a better home for the family. My hopes and dreams for Rotary My Wish are for it to grow much bigger, so that we can grant more wishes of terminally ill patients.”



Ms Vicky Soo
Chairwoman
Rotary My Wish Committee

CARING AND GIVING

Caring for people in need in the community, we offer them practical help to meet basic needs and cope with a limited budget. We share about two of many such projects as a window into how FRCS has been touching lives in the heartlands.

Meals From the Heart

First launched in 2005 in Yuhua and Clementi, the Meals From the Heart Project has been moved to Marine Terrace, where we help to distribute meals and rations to vulnerable seniors. Adopted by Rotary Club of Bugis Junction; we carry out this project in partnership with Di Zang Lin, a Buddhist charity which works with WeCare and social services in Marine Parade to identify and reach out to the beneficiaries. Volunteers deliver warm meals, confectionery and fruit every Saturday. Packs of food rations are given out once every month. This gives the volunteers opportunities to interact with the beneficiaries and understand their needs on a deeper level. Requests for help by the elderly are raised to the Residents' Committee to ensure that they receive the necessary support.

Loaf of Love

Since October 2015, Rotary Club of Singapore North (RCSN) has been working with Teck Ghee Community Club to distribute groceries every Wednesday to 300 needy seniors living in one-room rental flats in the constituency. At the grocery distribution centre, RCSN members, Rotaractors from ITE College Central and various volunteers pitch in weekly to pack and distribute the bags of foodstuff including essentials such as bread, jam, and eggs. Thereafter, we interact with the seniors collecting their groceries. We also deliver the groceries to individuals who are too frail to make their way to the distribution centre, keeping a lookout for those who are more homebound.

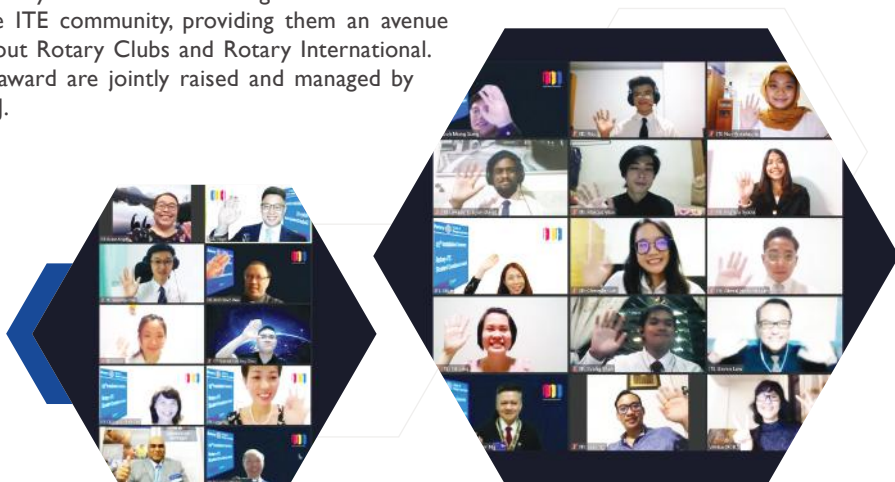


YOUTH AND EDUCATION

Working alongside FRCS, Rotary Clubs in Singapore have initiated significant Youth and Education projects that positively impact the lives of children, youth, and their communities. We share about two of such endeavours as a snapshot of our efforts.

Rotary-ITE Excellence Awards

Launched in 1998 by Rotary Club of Bugis Junction (RCBJ), the Rotary-ITE Excellence Awards recognizes top-performing Institute of Technical Education (ITE) students each year. Combining ITE Colleges for students across disciplines, we award 12 students for their academic achievements and commendable contributions to community service. An award ceremony allows us to encourage and network with students in the ITE community, providing them an avenue to discover about Rotary Clubs and Rotary International. Funds for the award are jointly raised and managed by FRCS and RCBJ.



Rotary-Cotton On Youth Fund (RCOYF)

Working in partnership with Cotton On Foundation, FRCS helps to identify and develop youth projects to benefit the Singapore community. Through the RCOYF set up in 2013, we empower youths to reduce poverty and improve the lives of those in need. Often intergenerational in nature, these youth projects are generally based on the four pillars of Health, Education, Sustainability and Infrastructure, as derived from the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. Open for application by youth organizations across ASEAN, RCOYF has supported impactful projects in Singapore over the years, such as the Rotary-Cotton On Youth Leadership Programme for Interactors.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH FEATURE: PROJECT STARFISH

Turning Lives Around

Founded in 2015 by a group of volunteer teachers, Project Starfish is a community outreach programme that has turned around the lives of over 50 out-of-school youths, empowering them to return to formal education, opening doors to greater possibilities. The name of the project came about because the volunteers believe that every youth is a rising star and worthy of help.

Helping youth, age 16 to 21, reintegrate to society, Project Starfish offers free, weekly, English, Science and Mathematics tuition to help them excel in their GCE N(T) Level examinations, so that they can qualify for the ITE.



Empowering Change

The success of Project Starfish showcases how FRCS empowers the evolution of impactful and inspiring programmes. We started to partner Project Starfish volunteers in 2019 by offering them use of our premises and access to classroom supplies. By then, the volunteer teachers had been running the project for a few years and needed a more permanent place to develop it further. Additionally, FRCS began helping them to mentor the youth and recruit more volunteers.

When the volunteers decided to make the move from running a project to registering the Society of Starfish Singapore in 2019, Rotarians stepped up again to guide them on the legal requirements as well as functional aspects of the process. Registering as a Society would enhance funding and boost volunteer recruitment, allowing it to serve a greater number of youths. With the successful registration of Society of Starfish Singapore in 2020, the Rotarians continued to serve on its Management Committee.



“ I hope that we can nurture the youths’ mental strength, assist them to get into ITE, and mentor them to complete the course. Whilst mentoring the students, I met a youth who was working at a factory to support his family. It was tiring for him to work and study, but he was determined to go back to school. Students like him inspire me to serve. ”



Mr Edmund Chew
Director - FRCS
Chairman, Project Starfish



Ms Siti Yariyati

Co-founder, Project Starfish

Volunteer Teacher

President - Society of Starfish Singapore



Ms Hajjah Nur 'Atikah Binte Musa

Volunteer Teacher

Society of Starfish Singapore



Ms Nur Fatin Nazurah Binte Johari

Project Starfish student 2016

Serving Alongside

“When we decided to make the move from running Project Starfish to registering the Society of Starfish Singapore in 2019, the Rotarians stepped up again to help us.

Highly experienced in setting up an organization, Mr Edmund Chew, Mdm Henny Goh and Mr Henry Lim, guided us on the legal requirements as well as functional aspects of the process. With the successful establishment of the Society in 2020, they continued to serve on our Management Committee.

We are extremely heartened and humbled that FRCS gave us the opportunity to expand our community project. Without their support and confidence in us, Project Starfish would just have remained a small community project. With FRCS’ help, we are confident of reaching out to and benefitting more youths in future.”

Helping Youth Pass Exams

“My passion lies in helping others, imparting values, and socializing with people from different backgrounds. Perhaps that is why I found myself in the teaching profession. I work at a tuition centre and also give private home tuition for Math in my own personal time. On top of that, I find great satisfaction volunteering at Society of Starfish Singapore, using my teaching skills to help out-of-school youths return to education.

While there have been many touching moments, one stands out for me. After receiving her preliminary examination results one year, a girl burst into tears. Her friend appeared to be consoling her. When I approached, she shared her marks – 51/100. Sobbing, she murmured, ‘I have never passed Science before.’

Only then, did I understand that hers were tears of joy. Such moments give my volunteering meaning.”

Giving Me Confidence

“Hi, I’m Nazurah! I am currently undertaking a part-time *Higher Nitec* course in Interactive Design at ITE Central while working full-time as a Desktop Engineer for a local secondary school. My hopes and dreams for the future are to be a Graphic Designer, and to attain a degree in the field.

I am now 25 years old. When I was a teenager, my learning journey ended abruptly partly due to financial insecurity. At that point in time, my perception of education was also distorted, and I did not have a clear view of what I wanted to achieve. Therefore, school did not pique my interest. However, not being engaged and mentally stimulated slowly started to influence my psychological well-being.

A few years out of school, with a new perspective on things, I went back into the education system with an intent to go all the way. Juggling time for studies while holding a job was taxing. Nonetheless, Project Starfish kept me going. Having the class set in a quiet and conducive environment, with committed and encouraging teachers, really made me feel like I could make it.”



Ms Jessica Ang
Project Starfish student 2019

Starting Afresh on the Path of Education

"I am Jessica. Most of my friends call me Kaikai. I am 20 this year and a student at ITE doing a two-year Nitec Course in Retail Services. As I have thought about starting a business, I decided to take this course to learn about customer service and how businesses operate.

From the time I started secondary school in 2013, my attendance was terrible. So, I was retained in secondary 1 and 3. I was habitually late for school and sort-of a troublemaker in class. Due to all that, I felt out of place and could not bond with my classmates. Ergo, I did not have friends. I withdrew myself from school in 2017.

When the Case Worker at the hostel I was residing in encouraged me to go back to studying, I thought to myself, "Why not, right?" That is how I came to Project Starfish. It was hard because I had lost touch with academics. All the teachers at Project Starfish helped me in their own way, be it big or small, physically or emotionally. They were patient, encouraging, and 100% dedicated. I would like to thank them all for helping me start afresh on the path of education. For that, I am eternally grateful."



Mr Al Zia Taffazal Bin Zolkefle
Project Starfish student 2016

We had Understanding Teachers

"My name is Zia. I am 21 years old and pursuing a degree in Business Management and Business Law from Murdoch University. I went for this course as I noticed that I am good at managing people and tasks. It has also been a passion of mine to study Law.

Around 2015, I stopped going to school while my parents were going through a divorce. I do not admit it much, but that definitely affected my focus on my studies whether I noticed it or not back then.

I went for classes at Project Starfish because it was recommended by my Counsellor. Getting back into education was definitely tough. It had been a while since I was in school. But, Ms Siti and Mr Andy were really understanding. They helped not only me, but the entire class to grasp the topics.

I would love to say a well-deserved and long overdue word of thanks to Ms Siti and Mr Andy. Without you, I would not have completed my N-Levels. And, I would not be doing my tertiary education right now."





TAKE ACTION:

DONATE • COLLABORATE • PARTICIPATE

**“ Those who bring sunshine
into the lives of others
cannot keep it from themselves. ”**

[illegible]

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Flag Days

Held annually, FRCS Flag Day is a key fundraising event that keeps our programmes and projects running year on year. We are thankful for Rotary Club members, Rotaractors, Interactors, and volunteers who come forth on Flag Day to help us canvas for funds. We also appreciate our donors, corporate sponsors and partner organizations for responding generously to our requests for support and sponsorship each time.

Sign up to volunteer at our yearly Flag Day.

Charity Golf Tournaments

Our Charity Golf Tournaments bring together golfers from various Rotary Clubs to raise funds for our community services, while building camaraderie among them and many ardent supporters. We want to thank Rotarians and our supporters for participating in these golfing events characterized by a strong sense of fellowship.

Join us as a golfer or volunteer at our next tournament.



Charity Film Premiers

Our Charity Film Premiers invite people from all walks of life to contribute to a charitable cause by catching a movie together. Garnering funds for our centres and community outreach projects, our Charity Film Premiers also allow us to network with like-minded partners, supporters and organizations. Thank you for purchasing the tickets and coming for our shows.

Participate in an upcoming Charity Film Premier.

Charity Dinners

Moving forward, we plan to raise funds through Charity Dinners, organized either by FRCS or Rotary Clubs, to celebrate special events or champion specific causes. Constantly seeking resources to further help our beneficiaries, we bring together well-wishers, donors, corporate sponsors, and grant-giving foundations to network and partner us in charity work.

Give to a meaningful cause at an upcoming Charity Dinner.



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A WORD OF *Thanks*

We are grateful for the generosity of our donors, supporters, volunteers, Rotary Clubs, Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors. Thank you for giving your time and resources to serve our beneficiaries.

We also thank our Executive Committee, chairpersons of various projects and committees, staff as well as beneficiaries, for contributing to this Corporate Profile through words and images, so that many may know more about FRCS.

The FRCS Board of Directors wishes to express sincere gratitude to Mr Chew Ghim Bok, Past District Governor of District 3310, for his generous donation towards the production costs of the Corporate Profile.

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SERVICE ABOVE SELF



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