

# Lakeside News

## Blessed To Be a Blessing



Tis' the season to share your blessings with those in need through our annual **Season of Giving** campaign!

As many beneficiaries we serve have felt the impact of inflation and higher costs of living, your donations can bring them joy and good cheer.

Olivia (not her real name) was one of the beneficiaries of the Season of Giving campaign.

She found herself at the heart of a delicate balancing act. She is the primary caregiver for four children.

Two of them have special needs and health issues.

She takes her children to weekly therapy sessions, early intervention classes, and medical appointments.

And she does it all while dealing with her own autoimmune disease.

Her husband is the sole earner in the family with a monthly income of \$1,115.

To help them out, we referred them to practical and financial support, including the YWCA food rations, the Red Cross Meal Programme, and The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund.

Plus, we introduced a volunteer tutor for her eldest son.

Last year, the family received the Christmas love gift through our Season of Giving campaign, which they used to share a rare family meal together.



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Today, we continue to support this family. The couple is committed to providing the best possible care for the children, and supporting each other during challenging moments.

This Christmas, you can make a tangible impact on a family like Olivia's. Your support can help a struggling family overcome adversity in big and small ways.

Help us share love gifts with disadvantaged individuals and families, and support our programmes and services by contributing to our Season of Giving campaign.

## Lakeside's 30th Anniversary Charity Gala



Our **30th Anniversary Charity Gala Dinner** on Friday, 20 October 2023 was a night to remember for all!

Executive Director Mr Teo Tee Loon talked about his 30-year journey at Lakeside. And months of hard work paid off as performers from Lakeside Student Care and Kaki Kampong Seniors Wellness sang their hearts out.



Perhaps the most heart-warming moment of the night belonged to Mr Umar Siddiq, a beneficiary from our Taman Jurong Haven, who shared his reintegration journey with everyone.

He also took the time to thank his parents sitting in the audience and wish his father a happy birthday!





We thank our guests for readily giving to support our work with children, youths, seniors, (ex-)inmates and families in need.

Special thanks to Ms Jane Ittogi Shanmugaratnam for selecting and donating works of art by Changi Prison inmates, and local artists Mr Raymond Lau Poo Seng and Dr Ng Guat Tin for donating their breath-taking paintings for the auction.

A huge thank you to Guest-of-Honour Mr Desmond Lee and esteemed guests Mr Shawn Huang, Ms Rahayu Mahzam, and representatives from various Citizens' Consultative Committees.

We were glad to present them with mini paintings lovingly created by our seniors!

Everyone was duly entertained by host Allan Wu and rising star Glenn Yong. The night was also made memorable with the wonderful support of our in-kind sponsors:

Bynd Artisan, Daum, Dream Selection, Far East Organization, Healthsprings Aesthetics, JUMBO Seafood, Mitsubishi Electric, Sheraton Towers, and Warren Golf & Country Club.

Thank you everyone!

[More photos](#)



## Celebrating Our Volunteers



“Celebrating Lives, Celebrating You” was the theme of this year’s **Volunteers’ Appreciation Day!**

We celebrated our volunteers’ presence and contributions, starting with a delicious meal personally served by Lakeside staff!

But that was not all – we debuted 5 Loaves (五包子), a band comprising talented musicians (who are also our colleagues)! Everyone had so much fun singing along to the classic songs in their set.



As their performance came to a close, candles were lit to symbolise the light that the volunteers have brought to the lives of our beneficiaries. What a touching sight!

Lakeside’s Volunteer Management Chairperson Ms Genie Gan, and Executive Director Mr Teo Tee Loon shared their appreciation for the volunteers.

Everyone brought home a token of appreciation – a delightful set with a tote bag designed by our children and senior beneficiaries and a luggage tag.



[More photos](#)



Special mention to the winners of our Helping Hand Awards, Lifetime Volunteer Awards, and Community Partnership Awards such as Shell, Grace Methodist Church, Republic Polytechnic, River Valley High School, Singapore Polytechnic and Warren Golf and Country Club. Thank you all for your committed and outstanding service!



## Appreciating Our Good Labourers

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Finally, a time of fun and relaxation for all the good labourers at Lakeside! We dressed up, let our hair down, and showed our appreciation for cultures from around the world for this year's **Good Labourers' Appreciation Dinner**.

We cheered for our multi-talented colleagues as they entertained us with singing and dancing performances, and even a magic show! All staff were recognised for their contributions, especially those who earned their Long Service Awards. Thanks everyone for another year of great work, let's continue serving with pride and joy!

## A Jolly Christmas at Lakeside



Christmas came early in the form of a Christmas Carnival on 14 December for the youths at our The GRIT Project's youth drop-in programme. They gathered for a Christmas feast and carnival games that put their problem-solving, strategic, and creative skills to the test.

Heartfelt thanks to our donors and sponsors for their crucial support, making all our endeavours serving children and youths at The GRIT Project possible throughout the year!

[More photos](#)[Lakeside Family Services](#)[lakesidefamilyservices](#)