



METTA



Celebrating 25 Years of Blessings

CONTENTS

- 1. President's Message
- 1. Metta 25th Anniversary Commemorative Book
- 2. 13th Shine Night – Forging Ahead
- 3. Metta In The Last 25 Years
- 4. Metta Silver Jubilee Banquet
- 5. Metta Charity Run 2017
- 5. Twin Stars Shining Brightly
- 6. Corporate Social Responsibility Events
- 7. When Dreams Becomes A Reality
- 7. REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE



慈光福利协会
METTA WELFARE ASSOCIATION



Forging Ahead
In Partnership
携手前进 共创未来

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Celebrating 25 Years of Blessings



Metta has come a long way since her inception in 1992. Over the course of 25 years saw her expansion of staff strength, services and beneficiaries with its first centre, Metta Day Activity Centre for the Intellectually Disabled, opening in 1995 in Hougang. I like to take this moment of celebrating Metta's milestone to thank our clients and staff for their dedication, to our volunteers for their time and effort, to our donors for their contribution to our cause and to our board members for their passion to serve on board Metta's committees.

Among the many developments of Metta in her quest to constantly stay ahead and relevant is the recent election of a new board. Our current board members have stepped down as part of succession planning as new members join the board. Many of our board members started off as volunteers at Metta and who have passionately given their time and effort to Metta's cause. From Metta's infancy to its current progress, they have witnessed the growth of Metta as they share their expertise and professionalism in the development of the association. We like to thank them for their long service to Metta and their devotion to help the community around them.

To fuel the flame of our success and make it ablaze brighter than ever before, the next coming years should be full of what we do best: serving the community. Metta is dedicated to perform her duties in keeping the trust our stakeholders have granted us and value them at the same time. I thank each of you for your contribution over the last two over decades in lending a part to Metta's growth and success.

With Heartfelt Gratitude

Venerable Shi Pu En
President
Metta Welfare Association

13th Annual
Metta
Shine Night

慈光 鼓乐争鸣
艺汇

FORGING AHEAD

群威群胆



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
DR DANNY TAN

ITE COLLEGE EAST • 18 NOVEMBER 2017, 8PM

PRESENTED BY



PRODUCED BY



SUPPORTED BY



Metta Welfare Association 25th Anniversary Commemorative Book

Immerse yourself in a collection of 25 inspirational, true stories and quotes from Metta Welfare Association's stakeholders - our ordinary every day heroes. Feel the strength and perseverance of each stakeholder as they face the challenges and difficulties that defy their odds. Let their story open your heart and rekindle the spirit in a compilation that would touch and help you discover basic principles which you can relate in your own life.

Pick up your copy for \$25 at Metta or order online at <http://www.metta.org.sg/mettabanquet>.

Funds raised from the sale of the Metta 25th Anniversary Commemorative Book goes into funding the programmes and services for Metta's beneficiaries. Please visit <http://www.metta.org.sg/mettabanquet/> to view the behind-the-scenes and interviews.



To purchase ticket or for more information, please call 6580 4688 or email to events@metta.org.sg

METTA IN THE LAST 25 YEARS

Forging Ahead In Partnership



Metta Welfare Association, the welfare arm of the Golden Pagoda Buddhist Temple, was founded in 1992.



September 1995
Metta Care and Social Services commenced operations, providing various services for the elderly through a group of volunteers. This subsidiary was eventually defunct as Metta defined its services more distinctively in its nine centres today.

25 April 1998
Mr Hawazi Daipi, MP for Sembawang GRC, was the Guest-of-Honour at the ground-breaking ceremony of Metta Home.



21 November 1998
Official opening of Metta Day Rehabilitation Centre for the Elderly.

January 2001
Metta School was established to offer special education to children with mild intellectual disability and/or autism aged between 6 and 18 years. There were 10 teachers and 50 students led by Principal, Mr. Wong Soong Meng.



June 2001
North East CDC – Metta Student Care Centre commenced operations.

CELEBRATE OUR SILVER JUBILEE OF 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY WITH A NIGHT OF ENCHANTMENT

Metta Welfare Association celebrates her 25th anniversary with a mystical theme of an "Enchanted Forest". Like an ethereal woodland, the canopy of the forest provides shelter and growth to all its services, centres and clients under it. The tall foliage of timber symbolises Metta's continuous growth as it evolves and adapts to the changing needs of the environment, providing relevant services.

Metta unceasingly nurtures its clients and provides unfailing support to ensure that they are best able to be equipped in overcoming their challenges.

Metta is hosting its Charity Banquet at Marina Bay Sands. Enjoy delectable fine foods and mesmerising enchanting performances by Metta's beneficiaries for a magical dining experience. Join us to support our work for people with special needs, the elderly, chronically and terminally ill. Your support of Metta is a journey to enable and empower our beneficiaries and rise to succeed in their own way.

Friday, 20 October, 2017
Marina Bay Sands, Cassia Ballroom
Time: 6:00pm Cocktail, Dinner

Ticket Prices

Individual seats: \$300 and \$500
A table of 10: \$3,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000
(limited premium tables)

Join us for an enchanting meaningful evening. You can support this cause to uplift and enrich the lives of our beneficiaries by inviting your family, friends and business partners to support us! For more information, please download the event flyer at www.metta.org.sg

March 1995
Officially registered as a charity in Singapore.



1994
Metta was registered with the Registrar of Societies. The association is endorsed by both the Community Development and Health Ministries, and is an affiliate member of NCSS.

August 1995
Metta Day Activity Centre for the Intellectually Disabled was opened. It was then referred to as the Hougang branch before the Woodlands branch was merged with Metta Home.



January 1997
First head office was set up at Geylang Road. Operations were managed by a modest team of seven staff.

September 1998
Metta Acupuncture Clinic was opened.



18 April 1999
Official Opening of Marine Parade – Yu Neng Student Care Centre.

June 2000
Metta Hospice Care was officially opened.

January 2001
Inception of Potong Pasir Day Care Centre, it was later renamed Potong Pasir Community Link.

27 September 2006
ITE College East and Metta School embarked on a community partnership through the use of technical skills.



August 2006
Metta Alumni was set up to congregate former Metta School graduates who are keen to further their mastery in visual arts, batik painting and pottery.



May 2005
Metta Volunteer Management Department, also known as, Metta Volunteer Club, was formed.

March 2005
Metta headquarters moved from Chai Chee to the current building in Simei, Metta School too moved to the current location in Simei.



2003
Metta Acupuncture Clinic closed down during the SARS outbreak.



30 June 2002
Ground-breaking ceremony for Metta School/Metta Building.

21 December 2006
Metta received its first ISO 9001:2000 certification.



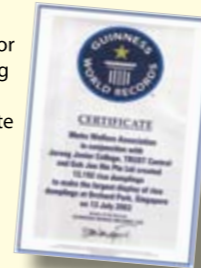
30 August 2006
Potong Pasir Day Care Centre/Potong Pasir Community Link was officially closed.

July 2005
The Metta Buddhist Culture Department began its operations on the second level of the Metta Building. The department started conducting sutra-chanting ceremonies every weekend, and on the first and fifteenth day of the lunar calendar each month.



September 2004
Happy Arts Enterprise Ltd was established as a social enterprise to create employment opportunities for young adults with special needs.

July 2003
A Guinness World Record was set for the "World's Largest Rice Dumpling Display" in collaboration with TRUST Central, Goh Joo Hin Pte Ltd, and Jurong Junior College.



January 2002
South East – Yu Neng – Metta Student Care Centre II was set up.

April 2016
Metta PreSchool@ Simei was closed.

April 2007
Metta PreSchool@ Simei was set up.

31 July 2010
Ms Penny Low, MP for Pasir Ris-Punggol GRC, was the Guest of Honour for the official opening of Metta PreSchool@ Punggol.



18 March 2012
Record set in Singapore for the "Largest Logo Made from Photo".



1 November 2013
Arts@Metta presented Colours of Life art exhibition.



23 & 24 August 2014
Was presented with "Community In Bloom Award 2014" and "Environmental & Biodiversity Award" by National Parks Board.



April 2015
Metta Home Nursing was set up.

1 July 2009
The South East – Yu Neng – Metta Student Care Centre II was closed.

June 2011
Construction of Metta School's annexe building began.



February 2013
Happy Arts Vegetarian Café ceased operation.

26 April 2013
Metta School's annexe was opened.



March 2014
Metta Café commenced operations.



31 March 2014
SECDC – Metta Student Care Centre was closed.



28 November 2014
Inaugural Overseas CSR Project "Values in Action @ Metta School, Chiang Rai"



31 July 2015
Attain Singapore Quality Class (SQC) accreditation in Metta's Business Excellence journey.

METTA CHARITY RUN 2017

26 Aug 2017, Singapore Sports Hub

In its 8th year running, Metta Charity Run 2017 saw good success with close to 1,200 runners and raised more than \$125,000. Guest-of-Honour Mr Seah Kian Peng, Member of Parliament, Marine Parade GRC and Chairperson, Social and Family Development GPC, accompanied by Metta President, Venerable Shi Pu En, flagged off the high adrenalin sport for all the run categories. Held for the first time at Singapore Sports Hub, children had fun at the game stations of the Parent & Child Fun Run, while enthusiastic runners ran past scenic views and iconic landmarks along the 10km and 5km routes. A lively carnival of food, bazaar, games, stage performances and lucky draws excited the senses of our runners after working up a sweat at OCBC Square of Singapore Sports Hub.



Make National Day Great Again

4 August 2017

280 staff volunteers from auditing and financial advisory firm, Deloitte Singapore, spent a fulfilling day of corporate volunteerism when they brought joy to Metta's beneficiaries from Metta's four centres: Metta Day Activity Centre for the Intellectually Disabled (IDAC), Metta Home for the Disabled, Metta Alumni, Metta Preschool @Punggol and Metta Day Rehabilitation Centre for the Elderly. It was a fun day of interaction and activity as Deloitte staff befriended and engaged Metta's beneficiaries with patriotic National Day songs and an upcycling workshop. The staff volunteers assisted the beneficiaries in creating pretty flower vases made out of recycled disposable plastic bottles and cups and decorating them with colourful strings, papers and wiggly eyes. It was a good activity that not only work on our beneficiaries' fine motor skills through this fun occupational therapy moment, but also brings a sense of achievement to Deloitte staff for their contribution. It was an especially meaningful day for the volunteers as the CSR event was part of a series of activities which celebrates Deloitte Singapore's 50th Anniversary this year.



Making A Difference with Love

13 September 2017

Over 350 staff from global professional audit firm, KPMG made a day of difference to the lives of some 330 beneficiaries from Metta in a corporate philanthropy theme of "Make A Difference Day" (MADD). Accompanying the beneficiaries from all of Metta's welfare centres, the volunteers guided them around Jurong Bird Park and pointing out the various colourful species of birds enclosed in their respective aviaries. From owls to flamingos to penguins, our beneficiaries were intrigued by the birds. The final stop was the High Flyers Show at the Pools Amphitheatre that entertained the young and old. Audiences marvelled at the impressive natural talents of the star birds as they performed tricks on command and flew through hoops. The show wrapped up with bento lunches for everyone to fill their hungry tummies and a cheque presentation to Metta.



Twin Stars Shining Brightly

Congratulations to Metta School twins, Jovin and Jovan Ong for being awarded the Lee Kuan Yew Exemplary Student Award 2017. The Lee Kuan Yew Exemplary Student Award recognises the strides made by students in 20 government-funded special education schools in their journey to becoming exemplary role models.

About the twins: Jovin and Jovan Ong are members of both the Metta Simba Scouts Group and in leadership positions to help their teachers with tasks to support the younger students in the group. The brothers participated in all the national scouting events which includes the SG50 Jamboree, Camp Possible and Special Needs Games Day & Campfires. Additionally, they are active in numerous school activities and events such as school camps, Metta Walks, Metta Run @East Coast, as well as the Runninghour 2016.

What they did: Helping others is the motto that the brothers live by. They volunteered to clean up several residents' homes in Bedok together with their classmates and did it with great joy while demonstrating good attitude with the cleaning tasks.

On one occasion, the brothers offered to help an elderly lady who was struggling to carry a trolley up the bus. A member of the teaching staff who witnessed the good deed felt both Jovin and his brother acted with the utmost sincerity in wanting to help the senior citizen.

"Today, among the 25 recipients of this award, is a pair of twins, Jovin and Jovan. Jovin and Jovan are students of Metta School, and they exemplify their school values of compassion and resilience. They have been active members of their CCA, the Metta Simba Scout Group, since they were 13. As participants of their school's overseas Values in Action programme, the twins helped residents in Batam build a water irrigation system to supply water to a farm. Jovin and Jovan have consistently demonstrated care and concern to members of the community, and touched the hearts of many in the school community."

— Excerpt extracted from Speech by Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills) at the Special Awards Presentation Ceremony, at Auditorium, Singapore University of Technology and Design on 17 August 2017

When Dreams Becomes A Reality

Metta Hospice fulfilled two of its patients' wishes through their Make-A-Wish programme in May 2017. Feroz Chand, 69, and Latiff B. Supardi, 60, had always loved the wildlife and get close to nature. But due to time constraints from their previous jobs and family responsibilities, a trip to the local zoo or River Safari has not been possible for the both of them. Both Feroz and Latiff have Stage 4 oesophagus and lung cancer respectively, making them wheelchair-bound as their condition would not allow them to walk for long periods of time. Getting to River Safari would definitely be a feat if not for the assistance of Metta Hospice nurses and staff.

On 23 May 2017, staff from the Metta Hospice palliative care team surprised Feroz and Latiff when they brought the two clients out for a fulfilling day trip to the River Safari. Sponsored by The Singapore Ireland Fund (TSIF), the trip brought immense joy to the faces of Feroz and Latiff as they took in the sights and sounds of the wildlife in the river-themed zoo and aquarium. It was an enriching experience for the two patients who are among one of the many beneficiaries of TSIF's Make-A-Wish programme that started in 2014 with its mission to deliver happiness to the lives of hospice patients.

For Feroz and Latiff and their family members who also accompanied them for the trip, it was a dream that became a reality and a check on their bucket list..



Metta Hospice Care introduced the Make-A-Wish program in April 2014 for its patients to fulfil their final wishes. This program aims to bring across the message to our clients that regardless of where we come from, who we are or what we have become, no one should deserve anything less in our final moments. The Metta Hospice Make-A-Wish program is sponsored by The Singapore Ireland Fund and the Singapore Jain Religious Society.

REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE

Donate Wearable & Usable Clothing

or

Donate Used Electronics & IT Equipment

Go green, save the earth and help the community when you donate your preloved electronics, IT equipments or wearable and usable clothing items to Metta's low-income beneficiaries. Drop us an email at events@metta.org.sg to enquire how you can go about it. Scan QR code to locate the recycling bins in Metta Building.

