

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

**GIVE  
EVERY  
CHILD A  
PROMISING  
FUTURE**

Our Mission

To reach out to every child in need and provide them with the resources to do well in school - and beyond.

CONTENT	PAGE
Background of STSPMF .....	2
Milestone Chart .....	3
STSPMF Board of Trustees .....	4
Chairman’s Message .....	5
General Manager’s Message .....	6
NCSS President’s Message .....	7
How We Work .....	8
14-Year Trend .....	9
Success Story from a Disbursing Agency .....	10
Quotes From Beneficiaries & Family .....	11
A Letter From Our Beneficiary, Elicia.....	12
How STSPMF Has Helped Nicholas .....	13
Top Donors & Fundraisers for 2014 .....	14
Key Events By Quarter .....	15
Beyond Pocket Money .....	19
Giving Tuesday .....	21
Code of Governance .....	22
STSPMF Disbursing Agencies .....	24
Financial Statement .....	(enclosed)

## BACKGROUND OF STSPMF

The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund (STSPMF) started in 2000 as a community project initiated by The Straits Times to provide pocket money to children from low-income families to help them through school. The children can use this money for school-related expenses, such as buying a meal during recess, paying for their transport fares or using it to meet their other schooling needs. The financial help also eases the burden of the many parents who are already struggling to feed their families on their meagre incomes.

The Fund supports over 13,000 children and youth a year. Since the project started in 2000, the Fund has disbursed close to \$47 million and helped over 130,000 cases of children and youth in providing them with monthly school pocket money.

STSPMF was established as a Trust on 20 October 2010 with a Board of Trustees and was granted charity status on 14 November 2011 with Institution of A Public Character (IPC) status effective from 1 January 2012.

Since its inception as a community project to its transition to a full-fledged charity, The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund has been working closely with its strategic partner, National Council of Social Service (NCSS), which disburses the pocket money to beneficiaries through its network of family service centres, special schools and children's homes.

As at December 2014, there are 69 STSPMF appointed disbursing agencies. These comprise 46 family service centres, 6 Children's Homes, 17 SPED schools, disability VWOs and Specialised School.



## MILESTONE CHART

**2000** On Children's Day, The Straits Times launches its School Pocket Money Fund. The idea is simple: Give poor students a dollar or so a day to fill their often empty stomachs. The ST-journalist Braema Mathi mooted the idea after writing a story about four children who, despite having no money for school, shone in their studies. A total of \$1.3 million is raised and about 3,200 children are supported.

**2002** Because of the bleak economy and a greater awareness of the Fund, the number of children requesting help more than doubled, to about 7,200.

**2003** OSIM boss Ron Sim pledges \$1 million to the Fund - the largest single donation the Fund has received from an individual. Mr Sim says he is inspired to give as he grew up poor.

To ensure that only those most in need receive help from the Fund, the qualifying criteria are tightened. The beneficiary's age is capped at 16 years and the income threshold tweaked from a maximum monthly household income of \$1,500 to \$300 per person. Additionally, from January 2004, students can receive help for a maximum of only one year.

**2004** The Fund scoops the Innovative Fundraising Initiative Award at the National Volunteerism and Philanthropy Awards, organised by the National Volunteerism and Philanthropy Centre. The judges praise the Fund for becoming a sustainable initiative filled with creativity and innovation.

**2005** The Straits Times and The Business Times organise ChildAid, an annual charity concert to showcase the best of Singapore's young musical talent. The money raised goes to The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund and The Business Times Budding Artists Fund.

**2007** The children supported get an extra \$5 to \$10 a month each to help them cope with rising costs of living. They can also stay on the scheme for up to two years. Primary school students receive \$35 a month instead of \$30, while secondary school students get \$60 a month, up from \$50.

**2008** The sum allocated to children in the Fund increases for the second year in a row to help with inflation. From September 1, primary school students receive \$45 and secondary school students get \$80 each a month. The maximum monthly per capita income is raised from \$300 to \$450. Also, students receive help until they complete secondary education, instead of only up to age 17.

**2009** Despite the economic crisis, a record \$5.9 million is raised, almost 30 per cent more than the \$4.4 million collected in the previous year. A total of 12,383 children receive help from the Fund.

**2010** The Fund celebrates its 10th anniversary and raise yet another record-breaking \$8.4 million. On 20 October 2010, The Fund was established as a Trust with a Board of Trustees.

**2011** The Fund was granted charity status on 14 November 2011.

**2012** The Fund was granted Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status effective from 1 January 2012. OSIM boss Ron Sim pledges \$1 million each year to the Fund for 5 years.

**2013** Pilot phrase of the post-secondary fund was launched on 1 January 2013. Post-secondary students who are full-time students studying at local Institute of Technical Education, Junior Colleges and Polytechnic are now eligible to apply for The Fund if qualifying criteria are met. They receive \$120 per month.

The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund was nominated by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) to receive the inaugural Asean Rural Development and Poverty Eradication Leadership Award.

**2014** Starting 1 January 2014, primary and secondary students receive an extra \$5 per month. Primary students now receive \$60 per month, up from \$55, and secondary students, \$95, up from \$90.

STSPMF BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Left to right: Sia Cheong Yew (Board Trustee), Gerard Ee (Treasurer), Sumiko Tan (Secretary), Han Fook Kwang (Chairman), Han Jok Kwang (Board Trustee).

<b>Chairman</b>		<b>Board Trustees</b>	
Han Fook Kwang	Since 20 October 2011	Han Jok Kwang	Since 20 October 2011
Editor-at-large		Chief Information Officer	
The Straits Times		Venture Corporation Limited	
<b>Treasurer</b>		<b>Secretary</b>	
Gerard Ee	Since 20 October 2011	Sumiko Tan	Since 27 April 2012
Chancellor		Deputy Editor	
SIM University (UniSIM)		The Straits Times Digital	
<b>General Manager</b>			
Tan Bee Heong	Since 19 June 2014		
The Straits Times			
School Pocket Money Fund			

CHAIRMAN’S MESSAGE



It was a record breaking year for The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund in 2014 when we helped the most number of cases in our 14-year history - 13,911 in all. A total of \$7m was disbursed, the highest ever, and \$700,000 higher than the previous year. It is gratifying that we are helping so many cases and making a difference in alleviating the hardship of lower income students and their families. But it is also sobering to know that so many Singaporeans continue to need financial and other assistance despite the economy doing well.

Much more needs to be done to narrow the income divide that exist in Singapore and in many other countries. STSPMF will continue to do its part and we are committed to help as many needy students as possible. Indeed, we raised the amount given to each of our beneficiary by \$5 a month

in January 2014, to help them cope with the increased cost of living. The additional help we are offering will mean we will need to raise more funds.

We were fortunate to receive \$300,000 from the Government through its Care and Share programme launched to celebrate Singapore’s 50th anniversary. Our many corporate and individual supporters continue to contribute generously and we are extremely grateful for their commitment. It will be another challenging year ahead but with the support of our donors and volunteers, we are confident we will be able to do even more.

**Han Fook Kwang**  
Chairman



# GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE



In 2014, we were heartened and encouraged to receive continued strong support from our individual donors, foundations and corporate partners. Many of them have been supporting STSPMF since we started. I take this opportunity to thank our partners and donors for their contributions and generosity.

The school pocket money which ST Fund provides aims to help our beneficiaries from low income families see through their schooling needs. We are pleased to know that some of our needy students are doing well in school despite their financial difficulties. One of our beneficiaries, Elicia, informed us with much elation recently that she has been offered a place in a local university. Elicia came from a low-income family and the situation was worsened when her mother was diagnosed with cancer about 4 years ago. With STSPMF's support, she saw "light of hope" and worked even harder in school to make her mother proud. Indeed, we are proud of her academic achievement.

Do read about Elicia's story in the annual report.

In the past years, we have worked closely with NCSS and 69 agencies to reach out to our beneficiaries who needed the financial assistance for their schooling needs. STSPMF reviews its policy with NCSS regularly to stay relevant and to ensure that the funds we provide as school pocket money continues to be a meaningful support for the needy families.

I am grateful for the dedication and invaluable guidance of our Board of Trustees and the commitment of our staff and volunteers. We look forward to the continued support of our partners in helping low-income families and making a difference to the lives of our needy students.

**Tan Bee Heong**  
General Manager

# NCSS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2014 has been a year of close collaborations with The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund (STSPMF) and various sector partners. Together we disbursed \$7 million and supported the transport and meal costs of more than 13,900 students, the highest since STSPMF started.

As a key partner of STSPMF, National Council of Social Service (NCSS) not only plays the role of the fund administrator, but provides sound analysis and review of its data and processes. This year, we actively engaged the disbursing agencies to better understand their challenges. With their feedback, data collection and assessment processes were streamlined, resulting in a 50% reduction in process requirements. Social workers and case managers were thus able to focus more on their intervention and assistance to the beneficiaries.

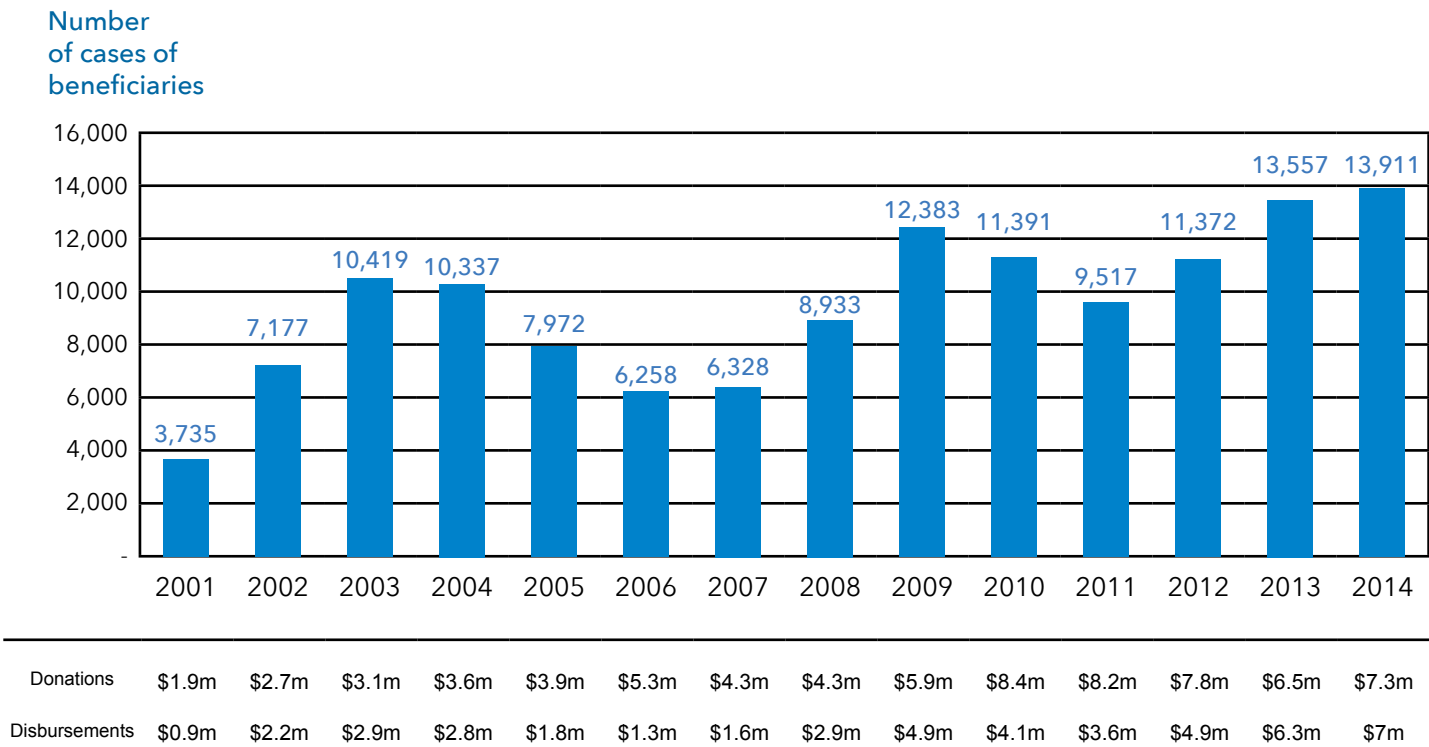
NCSS also commissioned a research to identify recurrent needs and profiles of low income families, including STSPMF exceptional cases to deepen the understanding of the challenges faced by low income families. Findings will be shared with policy makers and service providers to ensure that STSPMF, among other services, remains relevant and responsive to the changing needs.

We are happy to partner with STSPMF and be part of the meaningful work to serve the students and families who need help.

**Hsieh Fu Hua**  
President  
National Council of Social Service



14-YEAR TREND  
BENEFICIARIES, DISBURSEMENTS AND DONATIONS



**13,911**  
Primary, Secondary & Post-  
Secondary School beneficiaries  
helped in 2014

**\$7M**  
Disbursed to help  
beneficiaries in their  
schooling and social  
development needs

**69**  
Disbursing Agencies  
islandwide

SUCCESS STORY FROM A DISBURSING AGENCY



As part of her intervention, Mdm Qhameira Ani worked hard to get her home based bakery business back on track. Mdm Qhameira Ani also took up the social worker's suggestion of clearing up her common room for rental. She now gets \$450 monthly from the rental of her room since April 2014.

As a result of these efforts, Mdm Qhameira Ani's financial situation improved and she was able to balance her income and expenditure for the household.

The Fund has helped Mdm Qhameira Ani to ensure that her children have enough pocket money to go to school and to attend school regularly. Her children's attendance has been regular and they appear well adjusted.

In view of Mdm Qhameira Ani's positive progress, the social worker had invited Mdm Qhameira Ani to join Thye Hua Kwan FSC at Bedok North's Project Love in Oct 2014 as a mentor family. In Project Love, Mdm Qhameira Ani taught fellow families baking skills, and acted as a mentor to motivate fellow families.

This has helped her rebuild her self-esteem and confidence, and has motivated her to strive further. The children are also proud of their mother's turn around and the parent-child relationship had improved tremendously.

Ben Ang  
Social Worker  
THK FSC @ Bedok North

*"This recognition is given to the team of Ben Ang of Thye Hua Kwan Moral Charity Family Service Centre (Bedok) and The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund for helping my three wonderful angels so that they will not be deprived of education, and helping me in tough times to only be tougher in life challenges. Thank you," (Mdm Qhameira Ani Binte Ismail, 26 February 2015)*

Mdm Qhameira Ani Binti Ismail, aged 33, is a single mother with 3 school-going children, aged 12, 7 and 6. The family lives in a 3 room HDB flat. Mdm Qhameira Ani takes care of her children single-handedly. She approached Thye Hua Kwan FSC at Bedok North in June 2012 for financial assistance and advice.

Mdm Qhameira Ani was initially reluctant to trust the social worker. After a year of relentless engagement, the social worker was able to gain the trust of Mdm Qhameira Ani. The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund (STSPMF) was used as a tool to further engage Mdm Qhameira Ani for intervention by the social worker.

QUOTES FROM BENEFICIARIES & FAMILY

"STSPMF has helped me to tide over my financial difficulty supporting my children's daily pocket money expenses."

"The pocket money was very useful as it helped me and reduced my mum's stress."

"Thank you for giving me and my family the pocket money."

"It's really helpful for my kids and my counselor really help me a lot. Hope it can be increased."

"Saya sudah ambil duit poket mani untuk anak saya sekolah terima kasih atas semua hya. (I have received pocket money for my children and thank you)"

"I'm happy because by getting STSPMF plus the food ration, my family life becomes better. Thanks a lot!"

"有了这份基金对我们帮助非常大。我真的很感谢。总之谢谢!"

"STSPMF has helped me to cover school expenses for my 3 school going children to have proper meal, transportation fee and school shoes. Thank you very much."

"这份基金对于我这个单亲家庭有莫大的帮助，在孩子们的零用钱，交通费等都好，都减轻了我的负担，所以谢谢你们。"

"STSPMF has helped me and family to offset the transportation expenses incurred for grandson. Banyak termia kasih. Every month I am given food ration together with STSPMF, it's really helped my family a lot."

"Because my hubby is still in prison, so it really helped in my children's pocket money."

"STSPMF has helped me in many ways but most importantly STSPMF has lessen the financial burden of paying for my kids' EZ-link card and daily school/personal expenses."



## A LETTER FROM OUR BENEFICIARY , ELICIA

Before, life was not as easy as now. My mom in particular had to shoulder huge responsibilities by herself. She strived to gain the best for her children. My mom, Junaina Binte Basir would sacrifice her own wants and needs to ensure we had sufficient education so to ensure us a bright future. She wouldn't put our childhood wants aside. Though she always gave us the "green light" to indulge in our teen and childhood needs and wants, my siblings and I always tried hard to prioritize our needs before our wants knowing how hard it is for our mother. In such a financial state, my mom was never stingy with spending money of food and needs as to her, the happiness of her children is her first priority.

Life was fairly hard for us back then but situation deteriorated when my mom fell ill. She started having severe headaches and tummy pains. Her sleep will be troubled by her urge to vomit in the middle of the night. Seeing her that way, we were worried and our academic was definitely affected. Due to her illness, she couldn't work as much as she could at that point of time.

My mom was diagnosed with colon cancer about 4-5 years ago. She couldn't go out to work nor could she be with us at home. Being very attached to my mom, I visited my mom everyday at SGH. My normal day routine was going to school from home and visiting SGH from school. This strenuous cycle continued till she was finally discharged. Why wouldn't I just stay home? I am my mom's pillar of support and strength while she's mine. As the eldest daughter, I believe that it's my responsibility to make sure my mother is not crumbling but is growing strong. While it was also a crucial year for me as I had one of my major exams in secondary school, I used the time at the hospital and night at home to mug my way through.

Until then, STSPMF came into our lives like saviors. The burden and problems were not entirely gone or solved but STSPMF aided us financially & emotionally to lighten the burden that we once had. As a family, we saw light of hope in the midst of the darkened path that we are in. We became stronger as a family. My brother and I was driven to work hard for our exams so as to make my mom feel happier in her devastating state. Thankfully, we achieved results that made our mother proud. After her tumour was removed, it is very important to keep my mom away from stress and negative emotions. STSPMF definitely played one of the major roles in helping my mom emotionally. She became a stronger and a more optimistic individual.

Financially, we were much better and I was finally able to feel better towards my mom for I was always worried about her working past her limit.

Today, with STSPMF's golden aid, we are better as both individuals and family. STSPMF was not only a savior to us but also a teacher as they've thought us to never give up on hope. Thank you STSPMF.



\*Elicia has since been accepted into National University of Singapore, Faculty of Science.

## HOW STSPMF HAS HELPED NICHOLAS



*Nicholas, who comes from a low-income family, is a beneficiary of The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund (STSPMF).*

Two years ago, he was a rebellious pre-teen who loitered on the streets with his friends until late into the night. Today, Nicholas Tan, 14, is one of the top students in his class at Ang Mo Kio Secondary School, and spends his free time playing badminton, a sport that he loves.

Nicholas, who comes from a low-income family, is a beneficiary of The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund (STSPMF). The \$95 a month he receives helps to cover many of his school-related expenses.

Nicholas' 34-year-old mother suffers from a bad right knee, which makes it painful for her to walk and prevents her from working. His father, 38, works as a casket bearer, and brings home about \$1,000 a month. His salary is hardly enough for the family of five, which includes Nicholas' two sisters, aged eight and 17.

The monthly allowances go a long way to help the family make ends meet. "It really helps us with our expenses," said Nicholas' mother, Madam Cheng Poh Gek. "The money helps to cover my children's transport costs."

Nicholas, who receives about \$4 to \$6 a day, said the pocket money fund helps him pay for basic necessities like food. "I don't have to worry very much about lunch and dinner, which allows me to concentrate on my studies."

Article from SPH - The New Paper



## TOP DONORS AND FUNDRAISERS FOR 2014

### Thank You!

#### Corporate Donors

1	Ron Sim Foundation	\$ 1,000,000.00
2	HSBC Limited	\$ 224,663.70
3	Cerebos Pacific Limited	\$ 153,864.00
4	Super Galvanising Pte Ltd	\$ 100,000.00
5	LEE Foundation	\$ 92,500.00
6	Changi Foundation (Changi Airport Group)	\$ 72,000.00
7	United Overseas Bank Limited	\$ 56,500.00
8	HSBC Institutional Trust Services (S) Limited	\$ 56,129.00
9	Anmani General Construction Pte Ltd	\$ 54,440.00
10	Capital Distributors (S) Pte Ltd	\$ 52,500.00

#### Individual Donors

1	The late Lim Khing Pat	\$ 621,873.45
2	Mohamed Abdul Jaleel	\$ 500,000.00
3	Anonymous	\$ 100,000.00
4	Ong Teck Beng	\$ 84,750.00
5	Chow Kong Hoe Jeffrey	\$ 81,086.00
6	Dennis Lim Ah Hoo	\$ 71,210.00
7	Anonymous	\$ 70,000.00
8	Anonymous	\$ 50,000.00
9	Anonymous	\$ 50,000.00
10	Anonymous	\$ 50,000.00

#### Fundraisers

1	ChildAid 2014	\$ 978,772.64
2	Children for Children	\$ 120,850.00
3	Lucky Dippers Charity Golf	\$ 693,347.00
4	Boustead Projects 2014	\$ 136,480.88
5	Charity Ride 2014 - The Ride Thing at 60	\$ 115,600.00
6	Great Eastern Charity Shield	\$ 102,888.00
7	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	\$ 100,000.00
8	Far East Group 60th Anniversary	\$ 91,463.50
9	Shaving Heads Bald	\$ 67,894.40
10	Goodwood Park	\$ 64,000.00

We regret that we are not able to list all donors and supporters in this page.

Our grateful thanks to each and everyone for their unwavering support in helping our children and youth from low-income families.

## KEY EVENTS BY QUARTER - Q1



Han Jok Kwang - Doing The Ride Thing at 60



Hasta la Vista - Buona Vista Triathlon Club



A Little Change - Blindfold Walkathon



Singapore Swimming Association - SEA Games 2013



Great Eastern Charity Shield 2014



Singapore Polytechnic Charity Fun Run



Special Olympics Singapore Fundraising



KEY EVENTS BY QUARTER - Q2



Longhouse Food Fiesta



How To Read The Roads



BDP International 20th Anniversary



Maybank River Safari Outing



Citi-YMCA Youth For Cause 2014

KEY EVENTS BY QUARTER - Q3



The Straits Times Run at the Hub 2014



Far East Group 60th Anniversary Dinner



Children For Children 2014



Staedtler World Kids' Colouring Day



West Grove Art Auction



Beautex Art Competition



Cerebos BRAND's Charity Sales 2014



Ngee Ann Secondary School Youth Environmental Day



Cheers CSR Program



KEY EVENTS BY QUARTER - Q4



STSPMF Appreciation Day



ChildAid 10th Edition



STSPMF Briefing Day



PFP Associates 8th Charity Dinner



Porsche Charity Auction with Maria Sharapova



SCF - Countdown to 2015

BEYOND POCKET MONEY

Beyond giving pocket money, STSPMF also works with donors to organise outings for beneficiaries and STep-Up tuition programme to upper Primary school beneficiaries.



St. Nicholas Girls' School June Camp



The Straits Times Run at the Hub



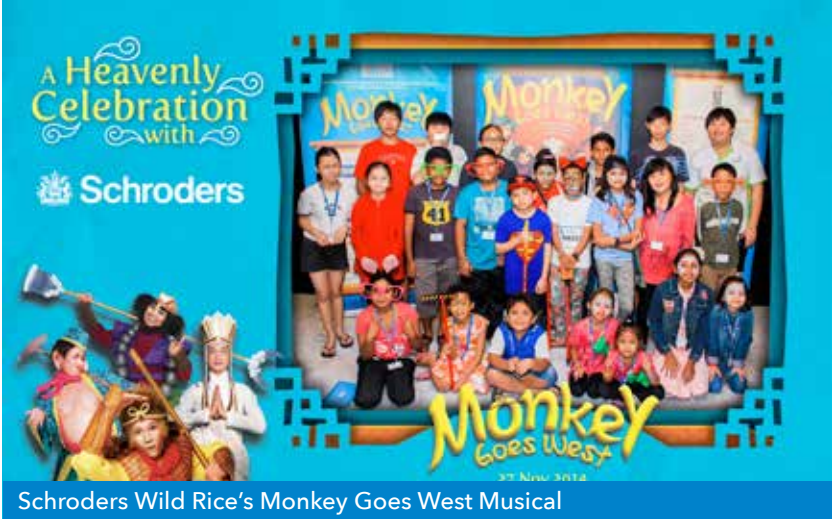
STep-Up Tuition Programme



NTUC Fairprice Foundation Movie Outing



Great Eastern Wishing Sphere



Schroders Wild Rice's Monkey Goes West Musical



10-DAY TRIP TO TUM CAMPUS

Abigail Sim, a second-year student from Victoria Junior College, got a glimpse of what it took to discover cures for diseases, toured Munich, and stayed with a German host family - all on a trip that was fully paid for. She spent three days in May 2014 in a lab at the Technical University of Munich (TUM), a renowned German science and engineering institution.

There, she helped a PhD student with research on new anti-virulence drugs, which fight antibiotic-resistant infections. For seven hours each day, she tried her hand at lab techniques, from purifying chemical compounds to separating molecules.

At first, she was worried that she would not be studying for the A-level exams like her friends, but she said her mother told her this was "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity". "It was very exciting as I've never had the chance to use the labs in universities in Singapore," said Abigail, who hopes to study medicine at the National University of Singapore or Monash University in Melbourne.

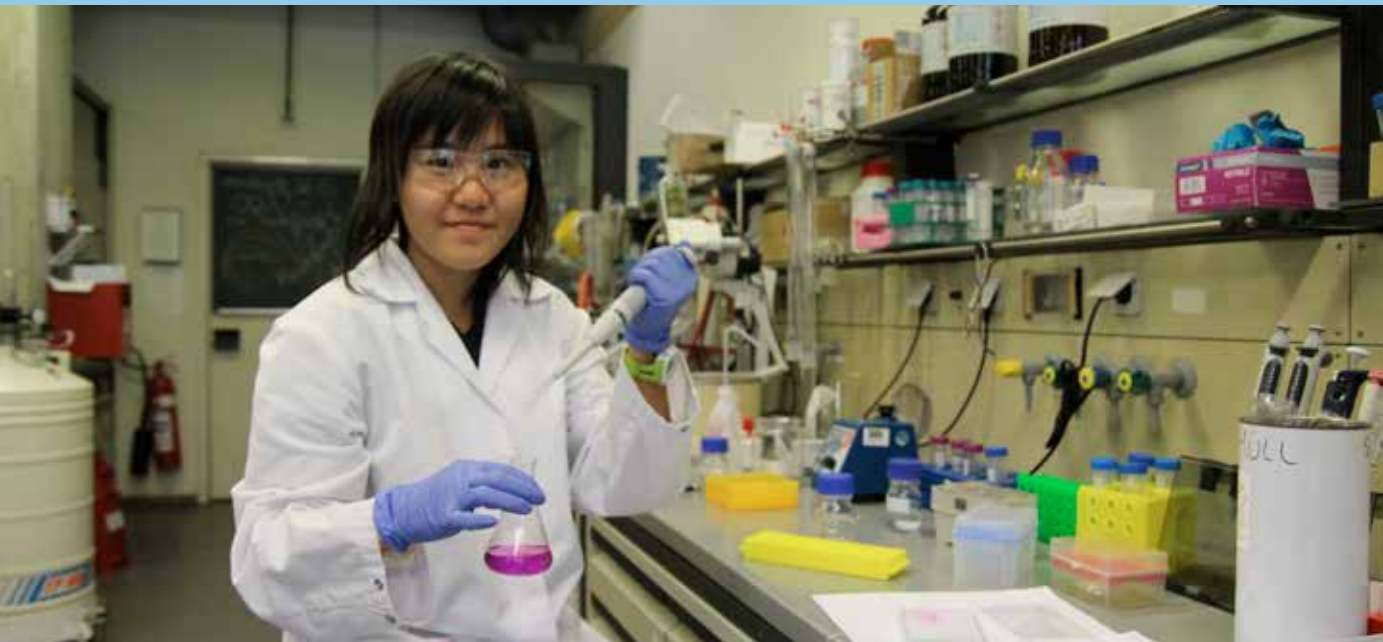
She is part of the second batch of students taking part in an initiative by the school's Singapore-based branch

TUM Asia, and The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund. The scheme allows the fund's beneficiaries to visit TUM's campuses in Germany. The programme was launched in 2012 to mark the 10th anniversary of the school located at Pixel Building in Buona Vista. The trip, which cost close to \$10,000, was paid for by TUM and TUM Asia.

Besides learning about lab work, she was also given an allowance of €240 (S\$408) and also went to tourist spots such as the Deutsches Museum, which has science and technology exhibits, and Allianz Arena, home of Bayern Munich football club.

Abigail, the middle of three children, said: "I learnt that discovery of new things takes time and perseverance." She hopes to one day go to developing countries to help children who suffer from malnutrition and diseases like malaria. "My mother shared with us newspaper stories about how there are people in other countries who have no access to medical technology, so I want to help them."

Article from SPH - The Straits Times



The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund celebrated GivingTuesday SG with 3 key events for 80 children in December 2014. It was the second year the Fund participated in the GivingTuesday SG movement.



Krispy Kreme Donut Treat



Keisuke Tori King Ramen Outing



Cerebos Christmas Party

## CODE OF GOVERNANCE: EVALUATION CHECKLIST

### CODE OF GOVERNANCE: EVALUATION CHECKLIST FOR THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND

S/No.	Code Description	Code ID	Compliance	Explanation
<b>Board Governance</b>				
1	Are there Board members holding staff appointments?		No	
2	There is a maximum term limit of four consecutive years for the Treasurer position (or equivalent, e.g. Finance Committee Chairman).	1.1.6	Complied	
3	The Board has an audit committee (or designated Board members) with documented terms of reference.	1.2.1	Not Complied	There are no Board committees. The Board carries out its duties based on the terms of reference in STSPMF Trust Deed.
4	The Board meets regularly with a quorum of at least one-third or at least three members, whichever is greater (or as required by the governing instrument).	1.3.1	Complied	
<b>Conflict of Interest</b>				
5	There are documented procedures for Board members and staff to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Board.	2.1	Complied	
6	Board members do not vote or participate in decision-making on matters where they have a conflict of interest.	2.4	Complied	
<b>Strategic Planning</b>				
7	The Board reviews and approves the vision and mission of the charity. They are documented and communicated to its members and the public.	3.1.1	Complied	
8	The Board approves and reviews a strategic plan for the charity to ensure that the activities are in line with its objectives.	3.2.2	Complied	
<b>Human Resource Management</b>				
9	The Board approves documented human resource policies for staff.	5.1	Complied	
10	There are systems for regular supervision, appraisal and professional development of staff.	5.6	Complied	

## CODE OF GOVERNANCE: EVALUATION CHECKLIST

<b>Financial Management Controls</b>				
11	The Board ensures internal control systems for financial matters are in place with documented procedures.	6.1.2	Complied	
12	The Board ensures reviews on the charity's controls, processes, key programmes and events.	6.1.3	Complied	
13	The Board approves an annual budget for the charity's plans and regularly monitors its expenditure.	6.2.1	Complied	
14	The charity discloses its reserves policy in the annual report.	6.4.1	Complied	
15	Does the charity invest its reserves?		Yes	
16	The charity invests its reserves in accordance with an investment policy approved by the Board. It obtains advice from qualified professional advisors, if deemed necessary by the Board.	6.4.3	Complied	
<b>Fundraising Practices</b>				
17	Donations collected are properly recorded and promptly deposited by the charity.	7.2.2	Complied	
<b>Disclosure and Transparency</b>				
18	The charity makes available to its stakeholders an annual report that includes information on its programmes, activities, audited financial statements, Board members and executive management.	8.1	Complied	
19	Are Board members remunerated for their Board services?		No	
20	Does the charity employ paid staff?		Yes	
21	No staff is involved in setting his or her own remuneration.	2.2	Complied	
22	The charity discloses in its annual report the annual remuneration of its three highest paid staff who each receives remuneration exceeding \$100,000, in bands of \$100,000. If none of its top three highest paid staff receives more than \$100,000 in annual remuneration each, the charity discloses this fact.	8.3	Complied	
<b>Public Image</b>				
23	The charity accurately portrays its image to its members, donors and the public.	9.1	Complied	



# STSPMF DISBURSING AGENCIES

## Family Service Centres

- 1. @27 Family Service Centre
- 2. Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centres (Ang Mo Kio)
- 3. Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centres (Cheng San)
- 4. Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centres (Punggol)
- 5. Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centres (Sengkang)
- 6. AWWA Family Service Centre
- 7. Care Corner Family Service Centre (Admiralty)
- 8. Care Corner Family Service Centre (Queenstown)
- 9. Care Corner Family Service Centre (Tampines)
- 10. Care Corner Family Service Centre (Toa Payoh)
- 11. Care Corner Family Service Centre (Woodlands)
- 12. Covenant Family Service Centre
- 13. Daybreak Family Service Centre
- 14. Fei Yue Family Service Centre (Bukit Batok)
- 15. Fei Yue Family Service Centre (Champions Way)
- 16. Fei Yue Family Service Centre (Choa Chu Kang)
- 17. Fei Yue Family Service Centre (Yew Tee)
- 18. Hougang Sheng Hong Family Service Centre
- 19. Kampong Kapor Family Service Centre
- 20. Lakeside Family Centre (Jurong East)
- 21. Lakeside Family Centre (Jurong West)
- 22. Marine Parade Family Service Centre
- 23. Pasir Ris Family Service Centre
- 24. PPIS Family Service Centre (East)
- 25. PPIS Family Service Centre (West)
- 26. REACH Family Service Centre
- 27. Rotary Family Service Centre
- 28. SBL Vision Family Service Centre
- 29. Sembawang Family Service Centre
- 30. Serangoon Moral Family Service Centre
- 31. SINDA Family Service Centre
- 32. Singapore Children’s Society Family Service Centre (Yishun)
- 33. South Central Community FSC
- 34. Tampines Family Service Centre
- 35. THK FSC @ Bedok North
- 36. THK FSC @ Bukit Panjang
- 37. THK FSC @ Jurong
- 38. THK FSC @ MacPherson
- 39. THK FSC @ Tanjong Pagar
- 40. TRANS Family Service Centre (Bedok)
- 41. TRANS Family Service Centre (Bukit Timah)

- 42. Viriya Family Service Centre
- 43. Whispering Hearts Family Service Centre

## Single-Parent Family Service Centres

- 1. AS-SALAAM Family Support Centre
- 2. HELP Family Service Centre

## SPED Schools and VWOs Working with Persons with Disability

- 1. APSN Chao Yang Special School
- 2. APSN Delta Senior School
- 3. APSN Katong Special School
- 4. APSN Tanglin Special School
- 5. AWWA Special School
- 6. Canossian School for the Hearing Impaired
- 7. Grace Orchard School
- 8. Lighthouse School
- 9. Metta School
- 10. MINDS Fernvale Gardens School
- 11. MINDS Lee Kong Chian Gardens School
- 12. MINDS Towner Gardens School
- 13. MINDS Woodlands Gardens School
- 14. Mountbatten Vocational School
- 15. Singapore School for the Deaf
- 16. SPD (formerly known as Society for the Physically Disabled)

## Children’s Homes

- 1. Canossaville Children’s Home
- 2. Jamiyah Children’s Home (Darul Ma’wa)
- 3. Muhammadiyah Welfare Home
- 4. Pertapis Centre for Women & Girls (PCWG)
- 5. Pertapis Children’s Home
- 6. Singapore Children’s Society (Sunbeam Place)

## Specialised Schools under Ministry of Education

- 1. Assumption Pathway School

## Other Agencies

- 1. PAVE at Siglap





**RSM Chio Lim**  
Audit • Tax • Advisory

## **THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**

(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

Institutions of Public Character Number: IPC0000744

(Registered under the Charities Act, Chapter 37)

### **Statement by the Board of Trustees and Financial Statements**

Year Ended 31 December 2014

**RSM Chio Lim LLP**

8 Wilkie Road, #03-08, Wilkie Edge, Singapore 228095

T +65 6533 7600 F +65 6594 7811

info@rsmchiolim.com.sg www.RSMChioLim.com.sg

UEN: T09LL0008J

RSM Chio Lim LLP is a member of the RSM network. Each member of the RSM network is an independent accounting and advisory firm which practices in its own right. The RSM network is not itself a separate legal entity in any jurisdiction.

*Business Advisors to Growing Businesses*



Globally Connected  
**RSM International**

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**Statement by the Board of Trustees and Financial Statements**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
Statement by the Board of Trustees .....	1
Independent Auditor's Report .....	2
Statement of Financial Activities .....	4
Statement of Financial Position.....	5
Statement of Changes in Funds.....	6
Statement of Cash Flows.....	7
Notes to the Financial Statements .....	8

**STATEMENT BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)**

The Board of Trustees of The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund ("SPMF") is pleased to present their report together with the audited financial statements of SPMF for the reporting year ended 31 December 2014.

**1. Board of trustees at date of report**

The trustees of SPMF in office at the date of this report are:

Han Fook Kwang – Chairman  
Gerard Ee Hock Kim – Treasurer  
Sumiko Tan – Secretary  
Han Jok Kwang  
Sia Chong Yew

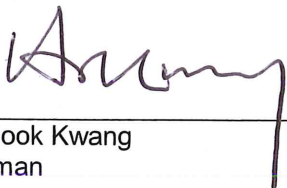
**2. Statement by the board of trustees**

In the opinion of the Board,

- (a) the accompanying statement of financial activities, statement of financial position, statement of changes in funds, statement of cash flows and notes thereto are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of SPMF as at 31 December 2014 and the results, changes in funds and cash flows of SPMF for the reporting year then ended; and
- (b) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that SPMF will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The Board approved and authorised these financial statements for issue.

On behalf of the Board



Han Fook Kwang  
Chairman

27 March 2015



Gerard Ee Hock Kim  
Treasurer

27 March 2015



**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of  
THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)**

**Report on the financial statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund ("SPMF"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2014, and the statement of financial activities, statement of changes in funds and statement of cash flows for the reporting year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

**Management's responsibility for the financial statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the provisions of the Trustees Act, Chapter 337 (the "Trustees Act"), the Singapore Charities Act, Chapter 37 (the "Charities Act") and Charities Accounting Standard, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair statements of financial activities and statements of financial position and to maintain accountability of assets.

**Auditor's responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of  
THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)**

– 2 –

**Opinion**

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Trustees Act, the Charities Act and Charities Accounting Standard so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of SPMF as at 31 December 2014 and the results, changes in funds and cash flows of SPMF for the reporting year ended on that date.

**Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

In our opinion, the accounting and other records required by the Charities Act to be kept by SPMF have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act.

During the course of our audit, nothing has come to our attention that caused us to believe that during the reporting year:

- (a) the use of the donation moneys was not in accordance with the objectives of SPMF as required under regulation 16 of the Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) Regulations; and
- (b) SPMF has not complied with the requirements of regulation 15 (Fund-raising expenses) of the Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) Regulations.



RSM Chio Lim LLP  
Public Accountants and  
Chartered Accountants  
Singapore

27 March 2015

Partner in charge of audit: Woo E-Sah  
Effective from year ended 31 December 2012

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**Year Ended 31 December 2014**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Voluntary income			
- Donations		7,324,011	6,599,545
- Grants		319,773	109
Interest income		409,838	380,539
Other income		7,578	53
<b>Total income</b>		<u>8,061,200</u>	<u>6,980,246</u>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
Cost of generating funds			
- Cost of generating voluntary income		21,486	12,302
- Fund raising expenses		217,285	193,095
- Cost of activities for generating funds		—	—
Cost of charitable activities (for disbursements of school pocket money to primary and secondary school students)	4, 13	5,831,482	5,508,181
Cost of charitable activities ( for disbursements of school pocket money to post secondary students )	4	1,128,480	763,800
Governance cost	4	97,041	100,931
Other expenditure	4	712,224	718,448
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>8,007,998</u>	<u>7,296,757</u>
<b>Net surplus (deficit) transferred to accumulated fund</b>	4	<u>53,202</u>	<u>(316,511)</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.



**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at 31 December 2014**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b><u>Non-current asset</u></b>			
Plant and equipment	7	749	2,996
Intangible asset	8	12,291	13,967
Investment in bonds	9	6,336,000	5,841,000
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u>6,349,040</u>	<u>5,857,963</u>
<b><u>Current assets</u></b>			
Receivables	10	5,053,020	4,689,296
Investment in bonds	9	510,000	506,250
Cash and cash equivalents	11	11,451,740	12,234,123
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>17,014,760</u>	<u>17,429,669</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>23,363,800</u>	<u>23,287,632</u>
<b><u>Current liabilities</u></b>			
Payables and accruals	12	395,595	372,629
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>395,595</u>	<u>372,629</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>395,595</u>	<u>372,629</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>22,968,205</u>	<u>22,915,003</u>
<b>FUNDS OF CHARITY</b>			
Accumulated Fund		17,925,670	12,040,986
Restricted Designated Donation Fund	13	5,042,535	10,874,017
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>	14	<u>22,968,205</u>	<u>22,915,003</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**Statement of Changes in Funds**  
**Year Ended 31 December 2014**

**Current year:**

	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Accumulated</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Designated</u> <u>Donation Fund</u>
	\$	\$	\$
Opening balance at 1 January 2014	22,915,003	12,040,986	10,874,017
Transfer between funds	—	5,831,482	(5,831,482)
Net surplus for the year	53,202	53,202	—
<b>Closing balance at 31 December 2014</b>	<u>22,968,205</u>	<u>17,925,670</u>	<u>5,042,535</u>

**Previous year:**

Opening balance at 1 January 2013	23,231,514	6,849,316	16,382,198
Transfer between funds	—	5,508,181	(5,508,181)
Net deficit for the year	(316,511)	(316,511)	—
<b>Closing balance at 31 December 2013</b>	<u>22,915,003</u>	<u>12,040,986</u>	<u>10,874,017</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**Year Ended 31 December 2014**

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
<b><u>Cash flows from operating activities</u></b>		
Net surplus (deficit) for the year	53,202	(316,511)
Interest income from bonds	(293,751)	(269,107)
Interest income from cash and cash equivalents	(116,087)	(111,433)
Depreciation and amortisation	3,923	3,851
<b>Operating cash flows before changes in working capital</b>	<u>(352,713)</u>	<u>(693,200)</u>
Receivables	(372,482)	(417,608)
Payables and accruals	22,966	(704,838)
Change in designated donation fund (net)	(5,831,482)	(5,508,181)
Disbursement to agencies	5,831,482	5,508,181
<b>Net cash flows (used in) operating activities</b>	<u>(702,229)</u>	<u>(1,815,646)</u>
<b><u>Cash flows from investing activities</u></b>		
Purchase of plant and equipment	—	—
Purchase of intangible asset	—	(876)
Net investment in bonds	(498,750)	(45,000)
Interest received from bonds	289,096	270,446
Interest received from cash and cash equivalents	129,500	108,397
<b>Net cash flows (used in) from investing activities</b>	<u>(80,154)</u>	<u>332,967</u>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(782,383)	(1,482,679)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning balance	<u>12,234,123</u>	<u>13,716,802</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, statement of cash flows, ending balance (Note 11)</b>	<u><u>11,451,740</u></u>	<u><u>12,234,123</u></u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**31 December 2014**

**1. General**

The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund ("SPMF") was established in Singapore on 20 October 2011 as a charitable trust. SPMF was registered as a charity under the Charities Act, Chapter 37 on 14 November 2011. SPMF was granted the status of an Institution of a Public Character on 1 January 2012 (IPC Registration No. IPC000744) under the Charities Act, Chapter 37 and the status was granted until 31 January 2017.

SPMF took over from The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund Community Project ("SPMF Community Project") which was initiated by The Straits Times in October 2000 and administered by the National Council of Social Service ("NCSS"). This project was for the sole purpose of providing pocket money to primary and secondary school children.

The principal activity of SPMF is to provide school pocket money to children and youth in need to pay for school related expenses and to support the social and educational development of children and youth in Singapore.

School pocket money is disbursed through SPMF approved disbursing agencies which are NCSS network of family service centres ("FSCs"), special schools and children's homes. With the establishment of SPMF as a charitable trust, all the assets and commitments of the SPMF Community Project were transferred to SPMF.

The board of trustees approved and authorised these financial statements for issue on the date of the statement by the board of trustees.

The registered office address is 1000 Toa Payoh North, News Centre, Singapore 318994.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

**Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities Accounting Standard ("CAS") as issued by the Singapore Accounting Standards Council. SPMF is also subject to the provisions of the Charities Act, Chapter 37 and the Trustees Act, Chapter 337.

**Basis of preparation of the financial statements**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The estimates and assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Apart from those involving estimations, the management has made judgements in the process of applying SPMF's accounting policies. The areas requiring the management most difficult, subjective or complex judgements, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed at the end of this footnote, where applicable.

## **2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **Income recognition**

Revenues including donations are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty and sufficient reliability of measurement.

#### **(i) Donations**

Donations and amounts from fund-raising projects are recognised as and when received.

#### **(ii) Interest Income**

Interest income is recognised when receivable.

### **Government Grants**

A government grant is recognised at fair value when there is reasonable assurance that the conditions attaching to it will be complied with and that the grant will be received. Grants in recognition of specific expenses are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs that they are intended to compensate, on a systematic basis. A grant related to depreciable assets is allocated to income over the period in which such assets are used in the project subsidised by the grant. A government grant related to assets, including non-monetary grants at fair value, is presented in the statement of financial position by setting up the grant as deferred income. The interest saved from government loans is regarded as additional government grant.

### **Gifts-in-kind**

SPMF enjoys regular pro-bono legal and other support services from Singapore Press Holdings Limited ("SPH Limited") and website support from Balanced Consultancy. SPH Limited also provides the use of rental free office premises to SPMF from 1 June 2014 to 31 December 2014 during the year. The value of these gifts-in-kind cannot be reliably measured and no value is presented in the financial statements except for the office rental, the estimated value of the gift-in-kind is \$8,245. In addition, no value is ascribed to volunteer services.

### **Employee benefits**

Contributions to defined contribution retirement benefit plans are recorded as an expense as they fall due. SPMF's legal or constructive obligation is limited to the amount that it agrees to contribute to an independently administered fund, that is, the Central Provident Fund in Singapore. For employee leave entitlement the expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences is recognised in the case of accumulating compensated absences, when the employees render service that increases their entitlement to future compensated absences; and in the case of non-accumulating compensated absences, when the absences occur. A liability for bonuses is recognised where SPMF is contractually obliged or where there is constructive obligation based on past practice.



## **2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **Foreign currency transactions**

The functional currency is the Singapore dollar as it reflects the primary economic environment in which SPMF operates. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded in the functional currency at the rates ruling at the dates of the transactions. At the end of each reporting year, recorded monetary balances and balances measured at fair value that are denominated in non-functional currencies are reported at the rates ruling at the end of the reporting year and fair value dates respectively. All realised and unrealised exchange adjustment gains and losses are dealt with in the statement of financial activities. The presentation of the financial statements is in the functional currency.

### **Income tax**

SPMF is registered as a charity under the Charities Act, Chapter 37 and is exempt from income tax.

### **Plant and equipment**

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis to allocate the gross carrying amounts of the assets over their estimated useful lives of each part of an item of these assets. The useful lives of the assets are as follows:

Computer hardware and software	3 years
--------------------------------	---------

An asset is depreciated when it is available for use until it is derecognised even if during that period the item is idle. Fully depreciated assets still in use are retained in the financial statements.

Plant and equipment are carried at cost on initial recognition and after initial recognition at cost less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment is measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the item and is recognised in profit or loss. The residual value and the useful life of an asset is reviewed at least at each end of the reporting year and, if expectations differ significantly from previous estimates, the changes are accounted for as a change in an accounting estimate, and the depreciation charge for the current and future periods are adjusted.

Cost also includes acquisition cost, any cost directly attributable to bringing the asset or component to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Subsequent costs are recognised as an asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the entity and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to profit or loss when they are incurred.

## **2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **Intangible assets**

An identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance is recognised as an intangible asset at acquisition cost if it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the cost of the asset can be measured reliably. After initial recognition, an intangible asset shall be measured at cost less accumulated amortisation.

The amortisable amount of an intangible asset with finite useful life is allocated on a systematic basis over the best estimate of its useful life from the point at which the asset is ready for use. The useful lives are as follows:

Patents and trademarks	- 10 years
------------------------	------------

### **Investment in financial assets**

An investment in a financial asset shall be measured initially at the transaction price excluding transaction costs, if any. Transaction costs shall be recognised as expenditure immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred. Subsequent to initial measurement, an investment in a financial asset shall be measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

### **Receivables**

Receivables excluding prepayments shall be initially recognised at their transaction price, excluding transaction costs, if any. Transaction costs shall be recognised as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred. Prepayments shall be initially recognised at the amount paid in advance for the economic resources expected to be received in the future.

After initial recognition, receivables excluding prepayments shall be measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Prepayments shall be measured at the amount paid less the economic resources received or consumed during the financial period.

### **Leases**

Leases where the lessor effectively retains substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of the leased assets are classified as operating leases. For operating leases, lease payments are recognised as an expense in statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease unless another systematic basis is representative of the time pattern of the user's benefit, even if the payments are not on that basis. Lease incentives received are recognised in statement of financial activities as an integral part of the total lease expense.

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include bank and cash balances, on demand deposits and any highly liquid debt instruments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less. For the statement of cash flows the item includes cash and cash equivalents less cash subject to restriction.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

**Payables**

Payables excluding accruals shall be recognised at their transaction price, excluding transaction costs, if any, both at initial recognition and at subsequent measurement. Transaction costs shall be recognised as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred. Accruals shall be recognised at the best estimate of the amount payable.

**Funds**

Fund balances restricted by outside sources are so indicated and are distinguished from unrestricted funds allocated to specific purposes if any by action of the management. Externally restricted funds may only be utilised in accordance with the purposes established by the source of such funds or through the terms of an appeal and are in contrast with unrestricted funds over which management retains full control to use in achieving any of its institutional purposes. An expense resulting from the operating activities of a fund that is directly attributable to the fund is charged to that fund. Common expenses if any are allocated on a reasonable basis to the funds based on a method most suitable to that common expense.

**Provisions**

A liability or provision is recognised when there is a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. A provision is made using best estimates of the amount required in settlement and where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount recognised is the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognised as interest expense. Changes in estimates are reflected in the statement of financial activities in the reporting year they occur.

**Critical judgements, assumptions and estimation uncertainties**

There were no critical judgements made in the process of applying the accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. There were no key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting year, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting year.

**3. Related party relationships and transactions**

CAS defines a related party as the trustees/office bearers and key management of SPMF.

The Board of Trustees did not receive any compensation during the year. Compensation to key management is included in the Employee Benefits Expense as disclosed in Note 5. There are no other related party transactions for the reporting year ended 31 December 2014.

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**4. Net surplus (deficit) for the reporting year**

The following items have been included in arriving at net surplus (deficit) for the reporting year:

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
Cost of charitable activities – school pocket money disbursements through SPMF Disbursing Agencies	<u>6,959,962</u>	<u>6,271,981</u>
Governance cost:		
Accounting and payroll charges	68,822	73,169
Audit fees to the independent auditors of SPMF	<u>28,219</u>	<u>27,762</u>
	<u>97,041</u>	<u>100,931</u>
Other expenditure:		
Administrative charges to NCSS	276,534	293,268
Expenditure on manpower	256,334	216,296
Processing fees to FSCs Disbursing Agencies	112,532	142,800
Others	<u>66,824</u>	<u>66,084</u>
	<u>712,224</u>	<u>718,448</u>

**5. Employee Benefits expense**

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
Salaries and other employee benefits	224,253	191,676
Contributions to defined contribution plan	<u>32,081</u>	<u>24,620</u>
Total employee benefits expense	<u>256,334</u>	<u>216,296</u>

**6. Tax deductible donation receipts**

SPMF enjoys a concessionary tax treatment whereby qualifying donors are granted 2.5 times tax deduction for the donations made to SPMF. This status is effective for the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 January 2017 under the Institution of a Public Character (IPC) Scheme.

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
SPMF issued tax deductible receipts for donations collected	<u>6,186,519</u>	<u>5,930,708</u>



**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**7. Plant and equipment**

	<u>Computer equipment</u> \$
<u>Cost:</u>	
At 1 January 2013	6,742
Additions	—
At 31 December 2013	<u>6,742</u>
Additions	—
At 31 December 2014	<u>6,742</u>
 <u>Accumulated depreciation:</u>	
At 1 January 2013	1,498
Depreciation for the year	<u>2,248</u>
At 31 December 2013	3,746
Depreciation for the year	<u>2,247</u>
At 31 December 2014	<u>5,993</u>
 <u>Net book value:</u>	
At 31 December 2013	<u>2,996</u>
At 31 December 2014	<u>749</u>

The depreciation expense is charged under other expenditure.

**8. Intangible asset**

	<u>Trademark</u> \$
<u>Cost:</u>	
At 1 January 2013	15,886
Additions	<u>876</u>
At 31 December 2013	16,762
Additions	—
At 31 December 2014	<u>16,762</u>
 <u>Accumulated amortisation:</u>	
At 1 January 2013	1,192
Amortisation for the year	<u>1,603</u>
At 31 December 2013	2,795
Amortisation for the year	<u>1,676</u>
At 31 December 2014	<u>4,471</u>
 <u>Net book value:</u>	
At 31 December 2013	<u>13,967</u>
At 31 December 2014	<u>12,291</u>

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**9. Investments in bonds**

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
Movements during the year- at cost:		
Cost at beginning of the year	6,347,250	6,302,250
Additions at cost	1,005,000	1,055,000
Disposals on maturity	(506,250)	(1,010,000)
Cost at end of the year	<u>6,846,000</u>	<u>6,347,250</u>
Quoted bonds of corporations in Singapore	<u>6,846,000</u>	<u>6,347,250</u>
Balance is made up of:		
Short term quoted bonds in corporations with variable rate of 3.3% (2013: 3.5%) and maturing within the next 12 months	510,000	506,250
Long term quoted bonds in corporations with variable rates from 3.2% to 6.3% (2013: 3.2% to 6.3%) and maturing beyond the next 12 months	<u>6,336,000</u>	<u>5,841,000</u>
Balance at end of the year	<u>6,846,000</u>	<u>6,347,250</u>
Market value of quoted bonds of corporations in Singapore	<u>6,865,190</u>	<u>6,428,348</u>

**10. Receivables**

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
Prepayments	4,722,266	4,406,744
Interest receivables	128,558	137,316
Other receivables	202,196	145,236
At end of the reporting year	<u>5,053,020</u>	<u>4,689,296</u>

Prepayments included \$4,713,282 (2013: \$4,397,010) for the un-disbursed balances provided to NCSS and the Disbursing Agencies during the year for 2014 disbursements and the projected disbursements for first half 2015.

**11. Cash and cash equivalents**

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
Cash and bank balances	3,451,740	1,414,321
Fixed deposits	8,000,000	10,819,802
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>11,451,740</u>	<u>12,234,123</u>

The rate of interest for the cash in fixed deposit accounts is between 1.21% to 1.39% (2013: 0.52% to 1.30%).



**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**

(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**12. Payables and accruals**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
	\$	\$
Payables	5,698	2,750
Accruals	<u>389,897</u>	<u>369,879</u>
At end of the reporting year	<u>395,595</u>	<u>372,629</u>

**13. Restricted designated donation fund**

SPMF was established as a charitable trust and assumed all the assets and commitments from the SPMF Community Project. Restricted Designated Donation Fund refers to the accumulated surplus transferred from the SPMF Community Project to SPMF.

In 2012, \$21,298,887 was transferred from SPMF Community Project. The Restricted Designated Donation Fund is restricted and is used solely for the disbursements made for the school pocket money to primary and secondary school students. This is to stay true to donors who had donated to the SPMF Community Project for this purpose.

SPMF will transfer an amount equivalent to the cost of charitable activities for disbursements of pocket money to primary and secondary school students from the Restricted Designated Donation Fund to Accumulated Fund when such disbursements are made.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
	\$	\$
Balance brought forward	10,874,017	16,382,198
Cost of Charitable Activities for Disbursements of Pocket Money to Primary and Secondary School students	<u>(5,831,482)</u>	<u>(5,508,181)</u>
Balance at end of the reporting year	<u>5,042,535</u>	<u>10,874,017</u>

**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**  
(Registration No: T11CC0007D)

**14. Reserve policy**

SPMF maintains a reserve policy to ensure it will be able to continue fulfilling its obligations and develop its principal activities.

SPMF reserves comprise the Accumulated Funds and the Restricted Designated Donation Fund. To ensure it can continue to help needy students even in years when donations run low, SPMF shall maintain reserves at three to five years of annual operating expenditure. This is especially important as SPMF is committed to helping children and youth who meet the eligibility criteria by providing them with school pocket money for at least two years. In exceptional cases requiring additional help, SPMF will extend the financial assistance to up to four years.

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
Accumulated Funds	17,925,670	12,040,986
Restricted Designated Donation Fund	<u>5,042,535</u>	<u>10,874,017</u>
Closing balance at end of the reporting year	<u>22,968,205</u>	<u>22,915,003</u>
Ratio of Reserves to Annual Operating Expenditure	<u>2.9</u>	<u>3.1</u>

**15. Operating Lease Payment Commitments**

At the end of the reporting year the total of future minimum lease payment commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	<u>2014</u> \$	<u>2013</u> \$
Not later than one year	–	14,134
Later than one year and not later than five years	<u>–</u>	<u>9,423</u>
Rental expense for the year	<u>5,889</u>	<u>4,711</u>

Operating lease payments are for rentals payable for the office premise at SPH. The lease from Singapore News & Publications Limited terminated on 1 June 2014.



**THE STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND**

UEN: T11CC0007D

1000 Toa Payoh North, News Centre Singapore 318994

Tel: 6319 2121 Fax: 6319 8270 Email: [emailus@spmf.org.sg](mailto:emailus@spmf.org.sg)

[www.spmf.org.sg](http://www.spmf.org.sg)