

Companies Compete In The Name Of Fun And Funds



Charity took a different ballgame on 16 September 2007 as it saw more than 200 sportsmen and women from 15 companies competing in this first-ever corporate games cum fundraising event.

"Sports and community involvement connect and engage people," said the Guest of Honour Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon, Minister of State for Community Development, Youth and Sports. "This SingHealth Foundation initiative is innovative and promotes active corporate citizenry while making a worthwhile contribution to improving the future of healthcare."

Held at the School of Physical Education stadium in Bukit Timah, the event organised by SingHealth Foundation raised \$300,000 in support of medical research and critical healthcare programmes. 15 companies from marine, engineering, pharmaceutical, medical devices, legal, FMOG, finance, electronics and manufacturing industries



participated in a choice of 6 sporting activities, namely soccer, volleyball, basketball, netball, badminton and tennis.

By engaging private companies, SingHealth Foundation's "All for CURE, CURE for All" corporate games aim to promote a healthy lifestyle and boost corporate bonding through friendly competitions, whilst raising funds for the Foundation's four core areas CURE.

"The Foundation's challenge is to highlight opportunities to nurture this form of philanthropy in Singapore," said Professor Tan Ser Kiat, Chairman of the SingHealth Foundation. "Support for this inaugural games event shows that corporates here are ready to support this worthy cause as part of their corporate social responsibility efforts. Coupling the charitable aspect with a fun event promoting workplace health is what we hope will be a winning formula for years to come."



The Art Of Healing

The regular music, dance and drama performances by schools, community organisations, renowned local and international artists and groups have been a key source of cheer to our patients since the launch of Arts for Health programme in 1998.

Patient Ms Natasha Tan, who has been attending many musical presentations during her 11 weeks' stay, says: "I have enjoyed them immensely and they have lightened my hearts during some very difficult days."

Apart from the performance arts, there are about six visual arts exhibitions every year at the Arts Expressions, showcasing works by patients during arts workshops conducted by professional artists and volunteers.

"Art workshops help them to express their feelings," says SGH Community Relations Manager Ms Tan Hwee Ping. "As patients and volunteers work on a photo frame or bookmark together, the patients learn to trust, and accept help and support."

With support from Shaw Foundation and SingHealth Foundation, the Arts for Health programme has since expanded to include music therapy and arts therapy in creating a healing and comfortable environment conducive for patients' recovery.

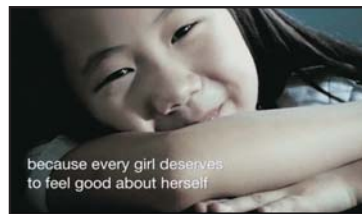


Ragging For CURE



Donning medical scrubs, twenty students from Singapore Medical Society of London headed to Singapore General Hospital, Raffles Place and Orchard Road on 16 and 17 August to raise funds. They spent two days entertaining the public while doing their bit of charity for SingHealth Foundation.

Dove Self-Esteem Continues To Touch Lives



Launched by Dove on 17 January 2007, the Dove Self-Esteem Fund goes towards improving the self-esteem of girls and young women. To date, Dove has reached out to more than 10,000 students through Body Talk – an educational programme that helps the youths understand and deal with their feelings about their physical appearance.

Dove has donated 10% of sales proceeds from selective Dove products at major retail outlets in February, March and August 2007 to this fund. In February alone, \$33,000 was raised. Dove further received an additional \$25,000 from Health Promotion Board for Body Talk.

Two Lives Saved After Cord Blood Transplant

In less than two years after Singapore Cord Blood Bank (SCBB) opened its doors, two lives have been saved.

One was diagnosed at five months old with a potentially fatal disease in which the body was unable to fight infections. Today this boy has been cured of this disease and is celebrating his first year after a stem-cell transplant from cord blood.

The other was 5 years old when transplant using the stem-cell unit from SCBB was performed. He was suffering from Hyper-IgM Syndrome, a different type of immunodeficiency, which causes frequent infections of the ears, eyes, sinuses, lungs, skins, respiratory tract and other areas of the body. It took four months before the hospital found a matching cord blood unit.

Cord blood has become increasingly the treatment of choice, especially for children, in recent years. Compared to using bone marrow, it is less likely to attack the body, and the criteria for finding the right match are less stringent.

"Cord blood transplantation is an exciting new development

in modern medicine that can save the lives of many patients suffering from blood disorders and cancers," said Dr William

Hwang, Medical Director of Singapore Cord Blood Bank and Consultant Haematologist and Transplant Physician of Singapore General Hospital. "But at present, few Singaporeans can find a suitable cord blood match." Most international cord blood registries do not have units which are suitable for Singapore's local populace.



The country's first public cord blood bank, SCBB serves as a national resource to Singaporeans in need of cord blood transplantations. It would seek consent from expectant mothers in Singapore in donating their baby's cord blood to the registry.

Launched in September 2005, SCBB aims to store about 10,000

units of life-saving stem cells, which would give patients a 60 per cent chance of finding an unrelated donor match. Given the multi-ethnic composition of Singapore's population, SCBB will be able to help local and overseas Asians who seek suitably matched cord blood units.

Connecting Singapore's Multi-Ethnic Cord Blood Units To The World

With Singapore Cord Blood Bank's recent membership to the US National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), Singapore is now connected to a global search registry, offering hope to Asians in Singapore, the Region and around the world. This collaboration represents international recognition of the SCBB's commitment to stringent quality and safety standards.

The Singapore Cord Blood Bank (SCBB) is the first in the region and third international cord blood bank outside USA to join NMDP. The hub of a global transplant network that connects more than 450 leading Transplant Centres, Bone Marrow Donor Centres, Cord Blood Banks and Repositories worldwide, NMDP manages the world's largest and most diverse registry, which includes more than 60,000 cord blood units. The collaboration will facilitate the search for patients – local or overseas – requiring an unrelated haematopoietic stem cell (HSC) transplant.

