

Milk

mainly i love kids

**ANNUAL REPORT
2008/2009**

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1. President's Message

The year 2008 was a rewarding year for MILK. Over the past year, we have seen our programmes reach out to more than 40,000 disadvantaged children and youths.

Our local programmes saw steady progress that was topped off with some exciting developments.

An important initiative during the year under review was the **MILK Community Foundation Fund for Children**, housed within The Community Foundation of Singapore, an initiative of the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre (NVPC). This addresses the fact that our work with the children often requires ongoing support and needs long-term sustainable funding. We are grateful to the Khoo Foundation who has supported this endeavour by becoming our cornerstone donor.

With the launch of the **MILK Education Fund** in February 2009, our MILK Education Programmes were extended to provide disadvantaged children with the opportunity to reach their full potential through tertiary education. This specifically targets deserving children from low-income households with family problems who would otherwise have to forego the opportunity to have a tertiary education.

I am also pleased to report that **Compassion Fund** has been set up as a company limited by guarantee and is in the process of applying for charity status; MILK will incubate Compassion Fund in its operations in the meantime.

Our overseas programmes also saw some rewarding progress. Our school lunch farms in **Thailand** have begun using their produce to feed the students for lunch. As part of our livelihood programme, a Grouper and Spiny Lobster hatchery was also completed. In **Timor Leste**, an official opening of a much-needed clinical service was held in February 2009. The MILK Choir under MILK **Philippines** also performed at the MILK Dinner and enjoyed an educational week in Singapore, made possible by several donors and corporate sponsors. In **China**, the 5-storey student hostel at Luoyuan Middle School No. 2 was completed and students have moved in since September 2008.

The Citi-Milk Run raised \$1.1million, with much thanks to our main sponsors Citi and Co-sponsors PSA Corporation Ltd. My grateful thanks to Shangri-La Hotel Singapore and Sincere Watch Limited who very kindly underwrote the costs for the MILK Dinner 2008. Your generous support enabled us to raise a total of \$2.6million that evening.

My thanks particularly to the MILK Members for underwriting the secretariat and fund-raising costs, especially those who have provided the MILK team valuable advice and guidance.

Once again, thank you for believing in our work and for supporting our children this past year. It has been a fruitful year for us and we could not have done so much without your support.



Dr Sheryn Mah, President

2. MILK (Mainly I Love Kids) Fund

Registered in June 2004, **MILK (Mainly I Love Kids) Fund** is a charity organisation that was set up to reach out and help disadvantaged children who “fall through the cracks” of our social safety net. We work alongside mainstream programmes, through our partners, to plug the gaps and provide a holistic approach that guide these disadvantaged children back to mainstream society.

These children come from low-income, troubled families or impoverished communities and some are physically challenged. We support them in their education, care and guidance, vocational and livelihood development and other special needs so as to give them the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

Our Vision

No child capable of developing into a contributing member of society will be marginalised because of disability, illness, poverty or social circumstances.

Our Mission

MILK reaches out to disadvantaged children and youths by focusing on **advocacy** and **fund-raising** whilst **working with our partners** to implement preventative and rehabilitative programmes.

Our Values and Principles

- We believe in working with committed partners to ensure that our programmes are transformational and meet needs that “fall through the cracks”
- We believe that our programmes must be responsive and compassionate
- We believe in good governance guided by transparency and integrity

Who Does MILK help

MILK supports disadvantaged children who are capable of mainstream education or employment and with some assistance will be able to lead their lives as contributing members of the society. In the region, the children come from impoverished communities and families.

How does MILK work

MILK works through a committed group of partners, each specializing in their area of expertise to reach out to the children and implement the programmes.

In the year 2008 through our various programmes with the partners, MILK served more than 9,550 children in Singapore and more than 30,500 children in the region.

3. MILK Local Programmes

MILK ensures that the help provided is holistic and transformational to the families or community by bringing together resources and committed partners. We focus on the following broad areas of work for our preventative and rehabilitative programmes:

- Educational Support
- Fighting Delinquency
- Other Areas (Plugging Gaps)

Educational Support

MILK through programmes such as the Bursary for Pathlight students, Healthy Start, LIFE (Learning is Fun and Exciting) helps children from disadvantaged homes gain access to early childhood education thus developing a learning foundation; provide before and after school care and general educational assistance to kids from low-income families. MILK recently launched the MILK Education Fund to help tertiary students from low-income families in Singapore to pursue their tertiary education. Some of MILK's educational programmes are listed below:

I. Bursary for Pathlight Students

MILK continued to provide educational grant to the 35 – 40% students from low-income families in Pathlight School. Pathlight School is the first autism-focused school offering the Singapore mainstream curriculum with special accommodations and support to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). MILK's bursary provides supplementary support to cover school transport, pocket money, uniforms, textbooks, stationery and enrichment programmes. 122 students were supported by the bursary in 2008.

Objectives:

- To enable autistic children to continue education and stay in school despite financial difficulties.
- To enable autistic children for better integration with mainstream community and reaching their maximum potential.

Partner: Pathlight School, Autism Resource Centre

II. MILK Education Fund

MILK believes that education is a great leveller and presents a vital opportunity for disadvantaged children to break out of the poverty cycle. The MILK Education Fund was conceived to provide disadvantaged children with the opportunity to reach their full potential through tertiary education. The programme was started initially by supporting 3 deserving students that were highlighted by MILK's partner Beyond Social Services. It was later launched officially in February 2009. The coverage of the fund will be based on the needs of the case presented. The programme specifically targets deserving children from low-income households who are facing family problems and pecuniary hardship, who would otherwise have to forego the opportunity to attain tertiary qualifications.

In view of the current economic downturn, MILK also introduced two additional educational assistance schemes (Type A1 & Type A2) under the ambit of the MILK Education Fund, for the years 2009 & 2010 to assist children from families who have been affected by the recession due to pay-cuts or unemployment.

Objective:

- To provide access to tertiary education to promising young people from troubled, low-income families in Singapore who have secured a place at a local university, polytechnic or Institute of Technical Education.

Partners: Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs) and Tertiary Institutions

III. Healthy Start

The **Healthy Start Programme (HSP)** seeks out infants and preschoolers from disadvantaged families and ensures that their physical, intellectual, emotional and social developmental needs are met. This is done through outreach activities, linking them to early childhood education programmes and forming partnerships with caregivers. 965 children were served through the various HSP centres operated by MILK's partner Beyond Social Services.

Healthy Start Child Development Centre (HSCDC) provides children with a quality environment that nurtures their growth and developmental needs emotionally, socially, cognitively and physically. This is done by providing quality pre-school curriculum and nurturing a positive partnership with their care givers. 47 children were served in 2008 through the full-day or half-day childcare facilities which prepare the children for life-long learning while enabling their parents to work to improve their financial situation.

Objectives:

- To provide early childhood education, health and nutritional support to disadvantaged children.
- To provide caregivers the skills and knowledge necessary for ensuring the healthy development of their children
- To prepare a life-long learning foundation in a warm and nurturing environment.

Partner: Beyond Social Services

IV. LIFE (Learning is Fun & Exciting)

LIFE is a basic literacy programme targeted at children from disadvantaged backgrounds who are facing multiple challenges, to help them attain their age appropriate literacy level so that they may have a fighting chance to further their education. This is done by strengthening their English, which is the working language. LIFE also builds into its curriculum, opportunities to inculcate moral values.

184 children were helped through the programme. LIFE also forged stronger partnership with the children's families and in order to be effective.

Objectives:

- To help disadvantaged children with learning difficulties learn.
- To provide a confidence-building and nurturing environment to support the learning of the children.

Partner: Beyond Social Services

Fighting Delinquency

MILK, through our partner Beyond Social Services, is dedicated to reducing delinquency among children and youth from less privileged backgrounds by providing guidance, care, protection and resources that keep young people in school and out of trouble. Alternatives and support are provided to teenagers in crisis so that they do not have to resort to drastic measures.

I. Babes

Babes guides teenagers who are experiencing a pregnancy crisis so that they do not take the drastic step of abandoning their baby. This is done by proactively information, support and community resources that nurture responsible decision making and behaviours. The emphasis is on responsible decision making based on the options available to them. In 2008 266 youths were served.

Objective:

- To provide support and care to pregnant teens with emphasis on nurturing responsible decision making.

Partner: Beyond Social Services

II. Kids United Daily Care & Kids United Home

Kids United Daily Care provides stability, care and guidance for disadvantaged children who lack adult supervision and are prone to delinquency, truancy and pre-mature school leaving. This is done in a warm and nurturing environment, where children feel safe, loved and cared for by attending to their basic needs, monitoring their school work and by working towards their well being in cooperation with their families and other significant people in their lives.

All activities were geared towards helping our children acquire a sense of achievement and a sense of belonging, qualities that nurture resilience within them. 133 children were served through the programme.

Objectives:

- To provide a safe and stable environment where children are protected from negative influences.

- To help children stay in school and achieve academic success.
- To instil the values of personal responsibility, self-respect and consideration for others.
- To impart life skills such as teamwork, time-management, budgeting and family functioning.
- To encourage parents and care givers to take an active interest in their children's development.

The **Kids United Home** provides temporary shelter for children aged 7-13 (referred by MCYS or within Beyond Social Services) in need of care, protection, guidance and structure as work is done to reintegrate them back to their families or natural support networks. In 2008, 30 children were served through the Kids United Home.

Objectives:

- To give the young residents as much time as they need for self-recovery through personalised care.
- To give the youth support and opportunity to build character by exploring their potential
- To allow the youth to reconcile with their communities and have old healthy relationships between supportive caregivers.

Partner: Beyond Social Services

III. Campland Beyond & Juvenile Justice in Schools

The Campland Beyond and the Juvenile Justice Programmes were platforms to engage schools in building a support network around their students. In the process restorative practices were introduced and the schools were encouraged to adopt a restorative approach as they dealt with their students who offended.

Campland is an adventure learning programme that encourages children facing multiple challenges to stay in school and out of trouble. Using experiential learning, values of teamwork and collaboration are imparted to the kids and provide them opportunities to develop healthy relationship with peers. With primary schools as the partners, these students are

reached early and protective factors are put in place to help them stay clear of trouble. In 2008 Campland reached out to 385 students in primary schools.

Objectives:

- To improve self esteem among foundational stream students
- To impart leadership and teamwork skills that will enhance their ability to contribute positively to their school and their community
- To enhance the school's efforts in nurturing and integrating foundational stream students.
- To provide these students with regular wholesome recreational activities within their school or in their community.

Through the **Juvenile Justice** program in schools, support is given to students who offend and at risk of dropping out or delinquency, to stay in school and out of trouble with the law. Work is done in partnership with the school, home and the community to provide a holistic approach towards delinquency management. In 2008 Juvenile Justice reached out to 6,148 children.

Objectives:

- To provide young offenders with a viable care-plan that would significant reduce their re-offending.
- To support schools in implementing a restorative justice programme that ensure young offenders are kept accountable for their action and committed to repairing the harm their offending has caused.

Partner: Beyond Social Services

IV. Safe Kids

Safe Kids ensures that every child and young person vulnerable to abuse and/or neglect is safe and well cared for in the community as far as possible. This is done by providing crisis management and by attending to clear and present danger. A community approach is adopted that complements the state's child protection & welfare system. In 2008, 121 children and young persons were assisted through Safe Kids.

In addition to the above-mentioned programmes, Children & Youth casework, Guidance programme, Streetwise programme, Restorative care, Youth United were some of the other programmes of Beyond Social Services that were supported by MILK in 2008. Through Beyond's support on the ground, MILK served a total of 9,299 children & youth.

Plugging Gaps

Where no other funding is available, MILK assists with initial or interim funding to meet inadequately met or unmet needs whilst working to plug the gaps through programmes like Compassion Fund and Assistive Technology Fund (ATF) top-up subsidy (in partnership with NCSS).

I. Compassion Fund

Compassion Fund, a crisis response programme that was set-up in 2006 for students from low-income families in crisis, continued to meet a need that fell through the cracks. A programme evaluation exercise conducted in the end of 2007 highlighted that the most pressing needs for families in crises were finance & education of the children, the needs that Compassion Fund endeavours to meet. Most families also found the programme helpful, especially the home visits conducted by the social worker/counsellor. However, the response from the schools for referrals had declined over the last years.

MILK therefore initiated the set-up of a separate organisation called Compassion Fund Ltd in March 2009 in order to develop and grow the programme through focused partnerships with schools and other organisations. Going forward, MILK plans to partner with Compassion Fund Ltd to improve the programme effectiveness and outreach to more families in crises. In 2008, the programme continued to operate through MILK's partners Students Care Service and Counselling & Care Centre and reached out to 63 students and their families.

Objectives:

- To give early and timely financial assistance to students whose families are in crisis so as to prevent the crisis from causing them to spiral into poverty or other chronic family problems.
- To co-ordinate long-term help efforts and to give immediate relief and support to help

students and their families to tide over the crisis.

- To empower school teachers, principals and counsellors to identify and help students in family crises by having a ready pool of funds.

Partner: Compassion Fund Ltd

II. Assistive Technology Fund (ATF) Supplement

The ATF, in collaboration with National Council of Social Service (NCSS), provides persons with disabilities with financial assistance in purchasing assistive technology devices, to pursue mainstream education or gain employment. Applicants who qualify can receive a subsidy of a maximum of 90% of the cost of the device or S\$10,000 whichever is lower from NCSS. Often, low income applicants are not capable of affording their portion of the co-payment and hence run the risk of not getting the much-needed equipment at all.

Our partnership with NCSS and the operational procedure had improved greatly this year, making the program much more responsive. This year, MILK received a total of 67 applicants referred by the NCSS with the top-up supplement. Of these, 35 were school-going children requiring assistive devices such as wheelchairs, hearing aids, vision magnifiers etc. As a children's charity, our focus is on disadvantaged children and youth of 25 years age and below. In the case of ATF-MILK supplement, we are able to provide funding for individuals over 25 years of age only because of donation from a well wisher.

Objectives:

- To provide top-up funding for children with disabilities from low-income families.
- To ensure holistic support to the families to address other pressing needs.

Partner: National Council of Social Service

III. MILK Community Foundation for Children

The MILK Community Foundation Fund for Children, housed within The Community Foundation of Singapore, an initiative of the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre (NVPC). This addresses

providing for long term sustainable funding for our programmes. We are grateful to the Khoo Foundation who has supported this endeavour by becoming our cornerstone donor.

Partner: The Community Foundation of Singapore

4. MILK Regional Humanitarian Efforts

MILK believes that part of its mission is to contribute towards the welfare of the poor children in the region. In impoverished communities in the region, MILK ensures that help is holistic and transformational by bringing together resources and committed partners of various expertises to collectively uplift a community from poverty.

Our efforts have taken us to:

- China
- Philippines
- Thailand
- Timor Leste

Last year, MILK partnered with NUS Business School's Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy (CSEP) to engage business school students in MILK's regional projects for community assessment and programme evaluation. 5 volunteers spent about a month each in China, Thailand and Philippines in July 2008. They engaged MILK's partners in evaluating the programmes, the needs of the communities and made recommendations for achieving long term community development and sustainability.

China

Our programmes in Luo Yuan located in Fujian province of China have been evolving over the past year. We have seen increased involvement from the county government as well as the community which is heartening.

- The 5-level **Student Hostel in Luo Yuan Middle School No. 2** was completed in August 2008. MILK members together with a representative from Keppel Land who sponsored RMB1million for the construction of the hostel attended the opening ceremony in August 2008. The hostel can house up to 540 students who live in the mountainous regions or deep in the villages and have to walk at least 4 hours to and from school everyday without the hostel facility. Students have started moving in since the new school year started in September 2008.

An additional grant of RMB 148,000 was also given to provide basic furnishing such as quilts for the students. Students now have a comfortable place to live in and concentrate on studies without having to walk a long distance home daily.

- With the **ACJC Friendship School Programme**, ACJC organized a 1-week visit to Luo Yuan Middle School No. 2 in Nov 2008. A gift pack of 100 books were donated to the school and students also participated in a speech day amongst other interactions with high school students.
- A total of 53 University Scholarships (RMB 6,000 per child per year), 37 Pre-University Scholarships (RMB 3,000 per child per year) and 53 University Bursaries (RMB 6,000 per child per year) were awarded in partnership with the County Government; with a presentation ceremony held for the scholars on 11 August 2008. 473 students also benefited from the **MILK Education Grant** (RMB1, 000 per child per year for food in school and their families). These students were assessed based on their conduct and school results; excellence in non-academic areas were also considered.
- About 1,517 students from Middle School No. 2 who are mostly from the rural farming communities have also benefited from the **MILK Nourishment Project**, which provides them with RMB500 a year for food in school and their families. Our partner in Luoyuan has since recommended discontinuing the programme as conditions in the county has improved as a whole over the past two years.
- **The Livelihood Project** in Luoyuan, targeted to provide sustainable livelihood, was discontinued as there was increased economic development over recent years. The improved employment opportunities had served the original intention of the programme.

Philippines

Our work in Philippines is implemented by MILK's counterpart – MILK Philippines. The funds are raised separately from well-wishers and donors in Philippines. The programmes are targeted at the children and youth in Tala (located about 18 miles east of Manila City), a 20,000 people community which has lived with the stigma of being the 'leper' colony due to the legacy of the town housing people with leprosy in the past. Even though the leprosy incidence rate is small, the town continues to be shunned by businesses and has suffered economically. The children lack nutrition and educational opportunities and grow up with low self-esteem.

The MILK Children's Choir of Philippines gave several public performances in 2008 including the one at MILK Dinner 2008 in Singapore on 24 September 2008. *24 children* from the choir were in Singapore for one week from 22-28 September 2008. Several donors and corporate sponsors came together to provide them an educational and enjoyable week in Singapore. It was their first trip outside Tala and the performance at the MILK Dinner and the visit to Singapore was a milestone in their lives.

Through funds raised on their own, MILK Philippines also works with several local partners to implement preschool & feeding programmes, educational support grants and livelihood programmes through apprenticeships for the youth. In partnership with Children Hour (a funding institution backed by the Ayala Foundation), they run the Start Learning School for children aged 3-6 at the Holy Rosary Parish Compound of Fr Paul Foulon, where the 144 children enrolled benefit from an integrated curriculum and supplemental feeding. There were also 22 scholars enrolled at the Holy Rosary College Foundation School in Tala, Caloocan City, with MILK Philippines supporting 70% of the tuition fees and the remaining 30% borne by Fr Paul, the Belgian Parish Priest of Tala.

Supported by Keppel Singapore, MILK Philippines also runs a livelihood project for the youths of Tala in welding training in Bauan, Batangas. Keppel trains the youths while MILK Philippines provides for the food, lodging and transportation allowances. Since the commencement of the programme in 2007, a total

of 77 youths have completed the training and have been deployed.

MILK Philippines has also conducted its 3rd teachers training by the De La Salle Group for the 80 elementary school teachers of Apolinario Mabini Elementary School in Tala, which is essential in helping to improve the standard of teaching at the elementary level.

Thailand

MILK's work in Thailand had begun in 2007 with a few rural communities in the North Eastern and Southern regions of Thailand. With economic empowerment as the first strategy to uplift these communities out of poverty, MILK supported several social enterprise pilot projects with partners *Population and Community Development Association (PDA)* and *Sustainable Development and Research Foundation (SDRF)*; both known for their years of development work with the rural poor.

- **School Lunch Farm – North Eastern Thailand:** School Lunch Farm is a programme in Nang Rong and Nong Bua Lamphu in north-eastern Thailand to help impoverished families and their children by creating a self-sustaining economy. The farms are within the schools and the food grown is used to feed the students in the schools and to generate profits to support the development of the school. The 6 schools farms (3 in Nang Rong & 3 in Nong Bua Lamphu) support more than *1,000 students*. A team consisting of MILK Exco, donors and volunteers visited the 6 school lunch farms in July 2008 to understand the progress of the school lunch farm projects and the challenges/gaps pertaining to them. The schools had begun using the produce from the farms to feed the students for lunch. MILK also provided additional support towards the children's education by supporting the set-up of library in the schools and sanitizing the school surrounds. It was heartening to see the high level of community ownership and the commitment to the welfare of the children.
- **Livelihood programme in Koh Yaow (South Thailand) –** The Marine Fishery programme on Koh Yaow island, south Thailand is implemented in partnership with SDRF. The programme addresses a community of over

14,000 people with approximately *18,000 children* in an at risk setting. The programme includes building a Grouper and Spiny Lobster hatchery which will act as a base for grassroots development. The programme will provide technical training and Spiny Lobster and Grouper fish fry to the local fishing communities so that they can raise these marine products in floating cages. It is hoped that the programme will help impoverished villages by creating a sustainable livelihood. The project has completed all 3 stages of the construction. Training will then be provided to the community people to raise marine products in floating cages.

Timor Leste

As the youngest nation, Timor Leste has one of the highest child and infant mortality rates in the world. MILK's work in Timor Leste involves primary health care, education, maternal/infant care and disease prevention programmes.

MILK has been supporting 5 programmes since 2005 through partnership with *Clinic Café Timor (CCT)*: Maternal and Child Health Programme, Nurse Practitioner Training Programme, Clinical services through joint partnership involving MILK, government & CCT, Professional Support for Dental Health Care and Interim Support to HIV/STI programme. The clinical service was completed in 2006 but the official opening of the clinic was conducted in February 2009 in the presence of Mr Stanley Tan, MILK Fund's Vice President. The HIV/STI programme was also successfully completed in 2005.

- **The Nurse Practitioner programme** was cancelled in December 2008 because the training was no longer run by the Ministry of Health. The budget for the programme was transferred to the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Programme to purchase a support vehicle which was essential for the delivery of services in the rural areas.

- **Maternal & Child Health Program** aims to improve the quality of in-clinic services and to promote village based health education. Some of the activities are increasing the attendance of antenatal clinic of pregnant women, conducting health screenings for pregnant women, distributing medicines and clean birth kits to pregnant women, increasing assisted births and increasing the immunization of children under 2 years old. Approximately 750 mothers and 1150 children are served by the programme every year. Child immunizations and clinic utilization also increased tremendously as a result of the community extension programme.

- **Professional Support for Dental Health Care:** The dental health care programme aims to provide a high level of dental service to rural communities and update the nurses' skills. The programme includes intensive training and dental clinical programme in 4 health clinics by a qualified dentist from Australia. In 2008, the dentist was unable to attend, therefore CCT is trying to secure another dentist to visit them in September 2009.

About *9,400 children* were supported through the various programmes in 2008. MILK supported CCT's pilot projects at a crucial time and this has allowed the programmes to be mainstreamed into CCT's ongoing operations including expansions funded by USAID and Cooperative Café Timor.

MILK also partnered with **Fundasaun Alola**, a charity dedicated to improving the lives of women and children in Timor Leste, whose programmes include maternal and child health, education and economic development. MILK supports capacity building of the Fundasaun Alola by funding staff salary, accommodation, travel, computers and vehicle maintenance and allowance.

5. MILK Events

We are thankful for the warm support received in the past financial year; especially the companies and individuals who took the kind initiative to organize events to raise funds for us. A total of \$443,359.37 was received through these kind efforts. Apart from that, our annual fund raising events were also held.

Share-A-Meal 2009 – 1 February

On 1st February 2009, 59 schools and 8 corporates came together to ‘share a meal’ with the disadvantaged children at MILK by donating what they would spend for one lunch into our donation tins.

We are privileged to have greater support of the Singapore Police Force with 6 of their Land Divisions helping to distributing almost 1,400 tins, island wide. This massive effort was once again spearheaded by the Ang Mo Kio Police Division who counted 2009 as their 5th year of involvement. With the kind support from partners and donors, a total of **\$66,772** was raised.

As with each year, the funds raised will be designated for the Compassion Fund, a fund which schools can access for students who may be in crisis as a result of sudden death of a breadwinner, a sudden illness or accident in the family.

Citi-MILK Run 2008 – 6 July

On Sunday 6 July 2008, 12,869 youths and adults - from schools and corporates, youth organizations and other community partners - took to the streets as a part of a large party, to celebrate National Youth Day. Each year, the MILK Run draws a strong crowd of over 10,000 people in a festive spirit of friendship amidst a lively carnival atmosphere.

The celebration included 8.4km and 5.3km races with special categories for VWOs, a Community Run, a youth parade, concert and bazaar. Over 5, 300

children and youth from schools and tertiary institutions turned up for the run, performed in the concert and youth parade, ran bazaar stalls or simply to add flavour and colour to the day’s festivities.

A total of more than **\$1,143,051** was raised. Other event costs such as venue, water, isotonic drinks, goodie bag items, logistics and refreshments were sponsored in kind.

Previously known as the Streetwise Run, the race has been held every National Youth Day since 2001. Funds raised from the Run are designated towards our programmes run by our partner Beyond Social Services.

MILK Dinner 2008 - 24 September

With the continued generous support from Sincere Watch Limited and Shangri-La Hotel Singapore who sponsored the costs, MILK Dinner 2008 was held on 24 September 2008. More than 380 guests turned up for the race-themed dinner, “Race Towards the Dream”.

They, along with Guest of Honour for the evening, Coordinating Minister for National Security, Prof S Jayakumar enjoyed a delightful repertoire of performances by the MILK Children’s Choir, a choir established by MILK Philippines as an educational support programme for children from troubled or impoverished families in Tala, Calocaan, Philippines. The programme aims to equip musically-talented children with skills to prepare them for possible careers in this area.

Guests also participated in a charity auction which featured exquisite items like the Audemars Piguet Singapore Grand Prix Chronograph, collector’s wines, an exclusive cruise package, and highly coveted Singapore Formula One Paddock tickets. A total of **\$2,601,525** was raised from the dinner.

6. People for MILK

MILK depends on a special group of passionate volunteers and secretariat staff who are dedicated to the cause of serving disadvantaged children.

Executive Committee & MILK Members

President	Dr Sheryn Mah
Vice President	Mr Stanley Tan Poh Leng
Honorary Secretary	Mrs Joy Balakrishnan
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Tan Wah Yeow (since 24 June 2008)
Ordinary Committee Member	Mr Lee Lung Nien
Ordinary Committee Member	Ms Janet Lyn Yoke Chin (since 7 May 2009)
MILK Members	Mr David Bussau
	Mr Chua Kee Lock
	Mr Low Seow Juan
	Mrs Debbie Phun
	Mrs Laura Poh
	Dr Tan Cheng Lim (till 15 June 2009)
	Mr Yeo Cheng Boon

Secretariat Staff

Senior Programme Executive	Ms Ranjana Raghunathan (till 22 May 2009)
	Ms Jess Tan (6 May 2008 till 13 August 2008)
Programme Executive	Ms Alena Choo (since 18 May 2009)
Accounts & Admin Executive	Ms Airin Sutanto
Administrator	Mrs Sue Koh (3 March 2009 till 3 June 2009)

7. Acknowledgements

We are thankful to each and every donor/supporter, whose contributions go a long way in helping a needy child. Some of the organizations and individuals that we partnered with are:

Corporate Donors & Supporters:

Ang Mo Kio Police Division	Community Chest
Ang Mo Kio Secondary School	Como Foundation Inc.
Anglican High School	Continental Steel Pte Ltd
Anglo-Chinese School (Primary)	Courts (Singapore) Limited
Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)	Culina Pte Ltd
Asdew Acquisitions Pte Ltd	DHL Express (Singapore) Pte Ltd
Asia Pacific Breweries Ltd	East Coast Primary School
Asia Resource Corporation Pte Ltd	East Spring Primary School
AXA Rosenberg Investment Management Asia Pacific	East View Primary School
Barclays Bank PLC	Eastern Carpets
Bedok Police Divisional HQ	Enthone Chemistry
Bedok West Primary School	Ernst & Young LLP
Bioprocessing Techonology Institute (BTI)	Expressions International (S) Pte Ltd
Bonvest Holdings Limited	Fajar Secondary School
Borneo Motors (Singapore) Pte Ltd	Food and Beverage, Fraser and Neave Limited
Boustead Singapore Limited	GIC Real Estate Pte Ltd
British Theatre Playhouse Pte Ltd	GITI Tire Global Trading Pte Ltd
Bukit Batok Secondary School	Golden Development Pte Ltd
Canossa Convent Primary School	Gosh Advertising
Capital Square Pte Ltd	Government of Singapore Investment Corp Pte Ltd
Central Park Partners LLP	Greenridge Primary School
Chai Chee Secondary School	Greenwood Primary School
Changkat Primary School	Hewlett-Packard Singapore (Pte) Limited
Chew Hua Seng Foundation	Hong Leong Foundation
Chongzheng Primary School	Hong Seh Motors Pte Ltd
Chua Chu Kang Primary School	Hotel Properties Limited
Citibank Singapore Ltd	HSBC Ltd
Clementi Police Divisional HQ	Jollibean Foods Pte Ltd
Clemvision Pte Ltd	Jones Lang LaSalle
Commonwealth Secondary School	JPMorganChase Foundation

Jurong Police Divisional HQ	PCF Punggol South Blk 452
Jurong Primary School	PCF Tampines East Blk 261
Jurongville Secondary School	PCF Tampines East Blk 262
Keppel Corporation Limited	PCF Tampines East Blk 358
Keppel Land Limited	PCF Tampines East Blk 385
KHL Printing Co Pte Ltd	Pei Hwa Presbyterian Primary School
Khoo Teck Puat Foundation	Pei Hwa Secondary School
Komoco Motors Pte Ltd	Peicai Secondary School
KPMG LLP	Pioneer Primary School
Lakeshore Pte Ltd	Poh Tiong Choon Logistics Limited
Far East Organisation	PriceWaterhouse Coopers
Lakeside Primary School	Prima Food Pte Limited
LaSalle - College of the Arts	Prime Partners Corporate Finance Pte Ltd
Lee Foundation	Prive Lifestyle Pte Ltd
Linden Resources Pte Ltd	Queenstown Primary School
Marina Bahari Raya Pte Ltd	Queensway Secondary School
Marsiling Primary School	Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)
Mayflower Secondary School	Raffles Institution
Meta Fusion Pte Ltd	Raffles Junior College
Mind & Media	Raffles Medical Group Limited
Modesto's	Rajah & Tann LLP
Mount Elizabeth Hospital	Red Schoolhouse Pte Ltd
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts	Republic Polytechnic
Nanyang Girls' High School	Resorts World At Sentosa Pte Ltd
National Junior College	Riverside Secondary School
Naval Base Primary School	Rulang Primary School
Ngo Chew Hong Edible Oil Pte Ltd	Seng Kang Primary School
Northbrooks Secondary School	Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts
Octopus Holdings Pte Ltd	Shuqun Primary School
Outram Secondary School	Silversea Cruises
Pacific Crest Pte Ltd	Sincere Watch Limited
Paragon Cargo Pte Ltd	Singapore Airlines
Pasir Ris Crest Secondary School	Singapore Explorer Pte Ltd
Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' Secondary School	Singapore Flyer Pte Ltd
PCF Kampong Ubi-Kembangan Blk 311	Singapore Grand Prix

Singapore Polytechnic LEO Club	Toshiba Singapore Pte Ltd
Singapore Totalisator Board	Training Command, TRACOM
Special Operations Command	Travelex Global Business Payments, Travelex Singapore Pte Ltd
Spectrum Press International	Trinity Medical & Aesthetic Clinic PL
SPF Volunteer Centre	Trussco Pte Ltd
St Andrew's Junior School	Trybe Centre
St Margaret's Primary School	Tuas Power Supply Pte Ltd
Stamford Land Management Pte Ltd	United Overseas Bank Limited
Stamford Tyres Corporation Limited	Unos Private Limited
Standard Chartered Bank	White & Case LLP
Stuttgart Auto Pte Ltd	Woodlands Secondary School
Tampines Primary School	Wyeth Nutritionals (Singapore) Pte Ltd
Tan Chin Tuan Foundation	Xinmin Secondary School
Tan Kong Piat (Pte) Ltd	Yanlord Development Pte Ltd
Teck Whye Primary School	Yellow Pages (Singapore) Limited
The Legends Fort Canning Park	Yu Neng Primary School
The Ultimate Pte Ltd	Yuan Ching Secondary School
TMX Show Productions	Yumin Primary School
Toll Logistics (Asia) Limited	

Individual Donors & Supporters:

Mr Edwin Basuki	Mr Willy / Terry Sy
Mr Ivan Bing Hung Chan	Mr Dilhan Pillay Sandrasegara
Mr Vinit Chandra	Mr Frits Seegers
Mr Cheo Mingyou	Mr Seet Keng Yew
Mr Andy Chua	Mrs Sharon Sophie Solomon-Issac
Mr Eric Lim	Mr Johnny Sy
Mr Goh Cheng Liang	Ms Andrea Tan
Mr Christopher Grigg	Ms Celine Tan
Mr Han Seng Juan	Ms Staphnie Tang
Mr Herman Ho	Mr Tay Liam Wee
Ms Caroline Kan	Mrs Cindy Tay
Ms Kan Yuen Oi Caroline	Ms Cecilia Teo
Ms Jacqueline Khoo	Mr Wee Ee Chao
Mr Koh Choon Fah	Mrs Dawn Wee
Ms Jade Williams	Ms Wee Jing Yi
Mr Jon Leadbetter	Mdm Sukmawati Widjaja
Dr Della Lee	Mr Jim Williams
Ms Priscilla Lee	Mr Kris Taenar Wiluan
Mr Michael Lim	Mr Wong Kok Wah
Mrs Susan Lim	Ms Wong Pui Yain
Mr Adrian Loh Tzum Yung	Ms Michelle Woo
Mr David Loh	Mr Roger Yap Chin Chong
Mr Gary Loh	Mr Louise Yong Lei Fong
Mr Hano Maeloa	Mrs Stefanie Thio
Mrs Christina Ong	

There are many other donors whose contributions have gone a long way in helping the disadvantaged kids that MILK supports. We are unable to mention all of them in this space, but we convey our heart felt thanks and gratitude for your faith in MILK's work.

8. Statutory Information & Policies

MILK (Mainly I Love Kids) Fund was set up as a society (Registry of Societies) on 23 June 2004. It was registered as a Charity, under the Charities Act on 6 July 2004.

Statutory Information

UEN No.
T04SS0150L

Constitution: Registry of Societies (ROS)
ROS Number: ROS 187/2004 WEL
Date of Establishment: 23 June 2004

Charity Status:
Charity Registration Number: 1793
Charity Registration Date: 6 July 2004

Institution of a Public Character (IPC) Status
Since 1 August 2004 (renewed until 31 December 2010)

Registered Address:
Enterprise One 1 Kaki Bukit Road 1 #02-10 Singapore 415934

A Member of:
National Council of Social Service

Executive Committee Members (Charity Trustees):
Dr Sheryn Mah, President (since 23 Jun '04)
Mr Stanley Tan Poh Leng, Vice-President (since 23 Jun '04)
Mrs Joy Balakrishnan, Honorary Secretary (since Jun '04)
Mr Tan Wah Yeow, Honorary Treasurer (since 24 Jun '08)
Mr Lee Lung Nien (since 06 Oct '06)
Ms Janet Lyn Yoke Chin (since 07 May '09)

MILK Members:
Mr David Bussau
Mr Chua Kee Lock
Mr Low Seow Juan
Mrs Debbie Phun
Mrs Laura Poh
Dr Tan Cheng Lim (until 15 June 2009)
Mr Yeo Cheng Boon

Auditor:
Nexia TS Public Accounting Corporation

Governance Policies

Board Governance

1. The Executive Committee / Board (Ex-Co) oversees MILK Fund's affairs. The key matters for the board include:
 - a. Approving broad policies, determining strategies and programme objectives of MILK Fund.
 - b. The Ex-Co is accountable for the management of donations received.
 - c. Approving and monitoring annual budgets.
2. The board meets at least twice a year and other deliberations/decisions are made via electronic methods.

Ex-Co Composition

1. The Ex-Co comprises of 6 members, all of whom are independent.
2. Each member has been appointed on the strength of his/her calibre, experience and potential to contribute.
3. A new treasurer is elected after every term of 2 years.

Fund-raising

1. The donations received are used in accordance with MILK's regulations and guidelines, unless stated for specific programmes.
2. We believe in keeping fund-raising costs to the minimum so that the donations may go directly to the children and the programmes that support them.

Finance & Audit

1. The finance and audit processes are closely monitored by the Ex-Co for adequacy of internal controls.
2. Financial statements shall be disclosed to the public and other stakeholders via the Annual Report or the website.

Conflict of Interest & Related Party Transactions

1. MILK has a conflict of interest or related party transaction disclosure process.
2. The concerned parties should declare and abstain from voting in any decisions involving related parties or potential conflict of interest.
3. The Ex-Co must be informed of all related party transactions and disclosure made in the annual report.
4. No appointment of paid staff with close relationship (i.e. those who are more than acquaintances) with current Executive Committee members shall be made unless with the unanimous approval of all Executive Committee members who do not have any conflict of interest.

Disclosure & Transparency

1. Annual Reports are prepared which include up-to-date information on MILK's programmes, activities and finances.
2. Audited Financial Information and the Annual Report are available at MILK's website for donors and other stakeholders.
3. Details of donations in kind, sponsored expenses and related party transactions would be disclosed in the Audited financial statement and made available at MILK's website.

Programme Objectives & Principles

1. **Vision:** No child capable of developing into a contributing member of society will be marginalized because of disability, illness, poverty or social circumstances.
2. **Mission:** MILK reaches out to disadvantaged children and youths who fall through the cracks by focusing on 1) advocacy and 2) fund-raising whilst 3) working with our partners to implement programmes.

3. Principles

- We believe in working with committed partners to ensure that our programmes are transformational and meet needs that “fall through the cracks”
- We believe that our programmes must be responsive and compassionate
- We believe in good governance guided by transparency and integrity

Committees

With effect from 25 March 2008, the following committees were formed:

1. Audit Committee

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Chairman | Mr Lee Lung Nien (till 7 May 2009)
Ms Janet Lyn (since 7 May 2009) |
| Member | Mr Chua Kee Lock (till 7 May 2009)
Mr Tan Wah Yeow (since 7 May 2009)
Mr Yeo Cheng Boon (since 7 May 2009) |

2. Programme & Service Committee

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Chairman | Dr Sheryn Mah |
| Members | Mrs Joy Balakrishnan
Mr Stanley Tan
Mr Lee Lung Nien
Mrs Debbie Phun
Mrs Laura Poh |

3. Fund-raising Committee

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Chairman | Dr Sheryn Mah |
| Members | Mrs Joy Balakrishnan
Mr Stanley Tan
Mr Lee Lung Nien
Mrs Debbie Phun
Mrs Laura Poh |

Charity Council – Code of Governance

The MILK Fund complied with 21 out of 21 applicable guidelines of the Code of Governance Evaluation Checklist for Institutions of a Public Character (IPC). The full online governance checklist is printed below:

S/No.	Code Description	Code ID	Compliance	Explanation (If Compliance in Progress, Not Complied or Not Applicable)
	BOARD GOVERNANCE			
	Board Roles, Composition and Bye-laws			
1	The Board is wholly independent from the paid executive management of the charity. Where <u>paid staff are on the Board</u> , they comprise not more than one-third of the Board.	1.1.2a	Complied	
2	Paid staff does not chair the Board.	1.1.2b	Complied	
3	There is a maximum term limit of four consecutive years for the Treasurer (or <u>equivalent</u>) position.	1.1.6	Complied	
	Board Structure			
4	<p>There are Board committees (or designated Board members) with documented terms of reference in place to oversee the following areas, where appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Audit; b. Programmes and Services; c. Fund-raising; (Applicable to IPCs & Large Charities) d. Appointment / <u>Nomination</u> ; (Applicable to IPCs & Large Charities) e. <u>Human Resource</u> ; (Applicable to IPCs & Large Charities) and f. Investment. (Applicable to Large IPCs) 	1.2.1	Complied	Appointment / Nomination Committee are deemed not necessary as the Executive Committee will consider new members for appointment to Executive Committee and or new members at least once a year in its meeting. Human Resource Committee is deemed not necessary as we have only about three paid staff at any time and all staff has close working relationship with Executive Committee. Further, the Executive Committee will review and approved at least once a year (likely to be December each year) compensation and staff benefits, personnel policies including policies related to professional development and training and overall staffing levels for administration and support staff, with reference to current market.
	Board Meetings			
5	The Board meets <u>regularly</u> (or as required by the governing document).	1.3.2	Complied	

	STRATEGIC PLANNING			
	Vision & Mission			
6	The Board periodically approves and reviews the vision and mission of the charity. They are documented and communicated to the public or its members.	2.1.1	Complied	
	Operations Plan			
7	The Board regularly approves and reviews a strategic/ work plan for the charity to ensure that the activities are aligned to the charitable objectives.	2.2.2	Complied	
	CONFLICTS OF INTEREST			
	Related Party Transaction			
8	There are documented procedures for Board members or paid staff to declare conflicts of interest to the Board.	3.1.1	Complied	
9	Board member with conflicts of interest do not vote or participate in decision making in the matter.	3.1.2	Complied	
	HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT			
	Staff & Volunteers			
10	There are documented human resource policies approved by the Board for paid staff (and volunteers, where appropriate).	5.1.1	Complied	
11	There are systems for <u>regular</u> supervision, appraisal and personal development of the executive head, paid staff (and volunteers, where appropriate).	5.1.5	Complied	
12	No paid staff or Board member (<i>where applicable</i>) is involved in setting his own remuneration.	5.1.6	Complied	
	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTROLS			
	Budget Planning & Monitoring			
13	The Board approves an annual budget for the charity's corporate and programme plans and monitors its budget expenditure regularly.	6.1.1	Complied	
	Operational Controls			

14	The Board ensures periodic internal audit or checks / reviews on controls, processes, key programmes and events.	6.2.2	Complied	
15	The charity ensures internal control systems are in place with documented procedures, approved by the Board, for financial matters.	6.2.3	Complied	
	Asset Management			
16	The charity discloses its reserves policy in the annual report.	6.3.1	Complied	
	DISCLOSURE & TRANSPARENCY			
17	The charity makes available to its stakeholders an annual report. <i>(Financial accounts are tabled at the Annual General Meeting, if required by the governing document).</i>	8.1.1	Complied	
18	Board members are not remunerated for their Board services.	8.1.2a	Complied	
19	The charity discloses the exact remuneration and benefits received by each individual Board member in the annual report.	8.1.2b	Complied	
20	The charity discloses annual remuneration of the top three key executives in salary bands of less than \$100,000, and subsequent bands of \$50,000 in the annual report.	8.1.3	Complied	
	PUBLIC RELATIONS & CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS			
21	The charity communicates its mission, programmes or activities to key stakeholders.	9.1.1	Complied	