



Saving Dogs, Touching Lives

**Mercylight Animal
Rescue and Sanctuary
Annual Report 2020**



Vision

To improve the quality of lives of stray dogs by rescuing, rehabilitating and re-homing them.

Mission

To increase public awareness and acceptance of stray dogs as companion animals who deserve to be treated with compassion and kindness, through education, advocacy and community outreach.



Values

Compassion | Kindness | Integrity | Transparency

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MESSAGE

from the Chairman



SAMUEL LIM
Chairman

Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, we managed to recruit 30 new volunteers in 2020, bringing our total strength of volunteers to 120.

Mercylight Animal Rescue and Sanctuary (MARS) obtained its Charity Status on 8 May 2020 and changed our name from Mercylight Limited. This new identity preserves the old ethos of the prior name (Mercylight), about showing compassion and providing light and hope to the animals. We also wanted to reflect that we will rescue and provide a sanctuary for the animals in our care.

2020 has been a remarkably difficult year. Despite COVID-19 disrupting a lot of activities that we had planned, the team still managed to do a good job under the new and challenging circumstances.

We had to quickly reinvent ourselves and leverage more on social media platforms. Our volunteers promoted our shelter dogs through daily Instagram/Facebook posts. We also produced a quarterly newsletter to reach out to our followers and supporters.

On average, we have 70 dogs in our care and also feeding 30 over strays daily. In 2020, 32 dogs were rescued, and 39 dogs were rehomed to good homes.

Our rehoming team has continued to ensure that every dog is guaranteed a loving home. Careful screening and home visits before and after rehoming are essential steps in this process. Mercylight prides itself on providing support to adopters in every step of the adoption process, even years after our dogs have settled into their new homes.

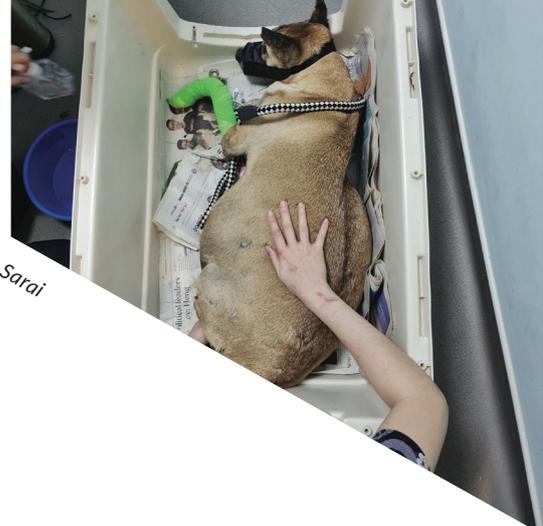
Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, we managed to recruit 30 new volunteers in 2020, bringing our total strength of volunteers to 120.

Recognising that one of the key success factors of rehoming our dogs is a well-behaved dog, our volunteers are encouraged to attend Basic Obedience classes with our shelter dogs. To date, 60% of our shelter dogs have undergone basic obedience training.

Fund Raising has always been a challenge for shelters like us. Thankfully, in 2020, we managed to get dollar-for-dollar matching from the government under the Enhanced Fund-Raising programme by the Tote Board.

We are currently working on the documentation and process required for Mercylight to become an IPC. We hope to submit our application in 2021.

Through Faith, Hope and Charity, we hope to save more animals.



Sarai

OUR WORK

1

Rescue

One of our key objectives is to rescue, provide food, shelter, and medical care for animals, thereby reducing the number of vulnerable strays on the streets. In 2020, we rescued 7 adult dogs and 25 puppies, including a pregnant dog which gave birth to 8 puppies in the shelter 10 days later.

Helping animals in critical situations is core to our work at Mercylight. We rescued a female dog that was calling for help and too weak to climb out of the drain. The vet had to put her down on the same day as she had masses all over her body and in many other organs. She was estimated to have suffered the agony and pain for at least 1 year as a stray. Although Sarai was in our lives for only a brief moment, her rescue reminds us of how pivotal each rescue can be.

2

Rehome

In 2020, 39 dogs were adopted. This means that half of our kennel population found good homes despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

3

Community Engagement & Training

Despite the COVID-19 crisis, our kennel operations of providing care to the animals continued as usual with adherence to the maximum volunteer limit and other safe management measures during the Circuit Breaker. Since the safe re-opening in May 2020, we have recruited about 30 new volunteers. This brings the total volunteer strength to 120 as of December 2020. About 80% of them volunteer a minimum of 4 hours a week, which works out to more than 20,000 volunteer hours a year cumulatively.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Due to the constraints of COVID-19 Safe Management Measures, CSR activities were only conducted in December 2020 with 2 organisations IHS Markit and Learning & Development Asia Community, for a total of 31 participants. They were briefed on the safety guidelines and basics such as dog-handling skills and were involved in pack walks and feeding of dogs.



Brinn and Brinnies

A photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a white t-shirt and dark shorts, crouching down to hug a large, brindle-colored dog. The dog is sitting and looking towards the camera with its tongue out. The background is a bright, indoor setting with a tiled floor and a fire extinguisher visible in the distance.

Kimberly & Tasha

Trap-Neuter-Release -Management Training

A total of 24 volunteers attended the dog trapping course conducted by SPCA under NParks in July and October. All 24 are now certified to trap stray dogs under the Trap-Neuter-Release-Management program.

4 Dog Behavior & Training

Our certified trainers use reward-based, positive reinforcement training methods which are fun and effective in shaping the right behaviors in our dogs. Our volunteers invest extra time and energy, at their own expense, to train the shelter dogs to increase their chances of being adopted.

In 2020, 3 Basic Obedience classes were conducted, and 7 kennel dogs completed the training. To date, almost 60% of our kennel population have gone through the Basic Obedience Training, all trained by our dedicated volunteers.

"I love every dog in Mercylight and want to give them a better chance to get adopted! As a volunteer that the dogs are familiar with, I get to see their true personality and how sweet and lovable everyone is. I decided to take part in these training sessions in hopes of helping the dogs to build up their confidence and come out of their shells."

Kimberly

OUR VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

Mercylight's Volunteer Appreciation Day is an internal event organised to show appreciation towards our loyal and committed volunteers and give them a chance to have a day out with the dogs they love. During the day, volunteers visited Wag N Wild, where volunteers and dogs both had a great time in the pool together. After a time of bonding over dinner, they enjoyed a leisurely walk at Rower's Bay Park.



OUR JOURNEY & MILESTONES

Year	2011- 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 *
Average Number of Dogs (Shelter & Stray Feeding)	NA	80	89	106	101	105	100
Dogs Rescued	78	22	31	35	20	28	32
Dogs Rehomed	43	13	25	18	20	24	39
Adoption Drives	NA	NA	5	10	10	10	0
Corporate Social Responsibility	NA	NA	0	0	2	3	2
Education Outreach	NA	NA	2	4	4	3	0

* All physical events were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Education Outreach

Other than bringing dogs up for adoption to the events, we were given the opportunity to stage an Obedience Performance. The dogs showcased their obedience skills as well as performed tricks. This showed the public that stray dogs are trainable and can also become domesticated pets. Members of the audience were also invited to interact with the dogs.

2016

Women's Tennis Association Finals at Singapore Indoor Stadium

NParks Adoption Drive at Waterway Point

2017

Singapore Horse Show by Bukit Timah Saddle Club

Adoption Drive at Causeway Point

NParks Adoption Drive at Waterway Point

Adoption Drive at Timbre+

2018

Adoption Drive at City Square

Adoption Drive at Quayside Isle

NParks Adoption Drive at Hillion Mall

Smart Kids Asia at Singapore Expo

2019

Singapore Horse Show by Bukit Timah Saddle Club

Adoption Drive at City Square

President's Challenge event, Let's Carnival, at Kuo Chuan Presbyterian School

TESTIMONIALS

A big part of Mercylight's work is finding suitable forever homes for the rescued and rehabilitated shelter dogs.

Our son, Fred, had been talking about getting a dog for 8 years and we initially wanted to look for an older dog - we went to Mercylight about 4 times, and to one of the foster homes as well. As a family, we have always agreed that we wanted to adopt a dog rather than buy.

Mercylight had been recommended to us by a friend who had previously adopted a dog there (sister of Cairo), and they told us it was a really well-run organisation. We went to meet with Kelly and were amazed by how well-run the shelter was.

The adoption process was really good, in the sense that it was not too easy. You want the right people to adopt, and you need to be careful, so it was good that the adoption process was not too easy. Kelly was really good and helpful, and we can't say enough how well-run Mercylight is.

Dingo & His New Family
- Lauren, Joe and Fred



“The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.” - DeAnn Hollis

Till today (I've volunteered for 6 years), I look forward to every duty, adoption drive and training session (seems incredible, but it's true!). In addition, I love being part of Mercylight as it is well organized and filled with like-minded people that all wish to find a fur-ever home for our fur kids.

Faith

FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

Amounts raised were used for the dogs' medical and shelter operation expenses. There was no commercial fund raiser involved.

CHARMING MEDICAL FUND

Online Fund-Raising
28 - 31 January 2020

\$20,182.49

HELP BRINN & HER BRINNIES

Campaign under Enhanced Fund-Raising Programme by Tote Board with government dollar-for-dollar matching

15 June - 31 August 2020

\$35,758 + \$35,758

(government matching)

FROM STRANGERS TO FRIENDS

Virtual Dates for Animal Lovers on #PetExpoConnect digital platform
13 August - 13 September 2020

\$4,253

(shared by 11 animal welfare groups; Mercylight received \$386.64)

@KIKITHEMP

Charity run on Instagram
25 September - 9 October 2020

\$1,000

WORLD ANIMAL DAY

A partnership with Shopee
1 - 18 October 2020

\$1,312

L&D COMMUNITY CSR 2020

Fund-Raising Campaign
28 October - 25 November 2020

\$2,080

SAVE BLESSINGS MEDICAL FUND

Campaign under Enhanced Fund-Raising Programme by Tote Board with government dollar-for-dollar matching

15 October - 15 January 2020

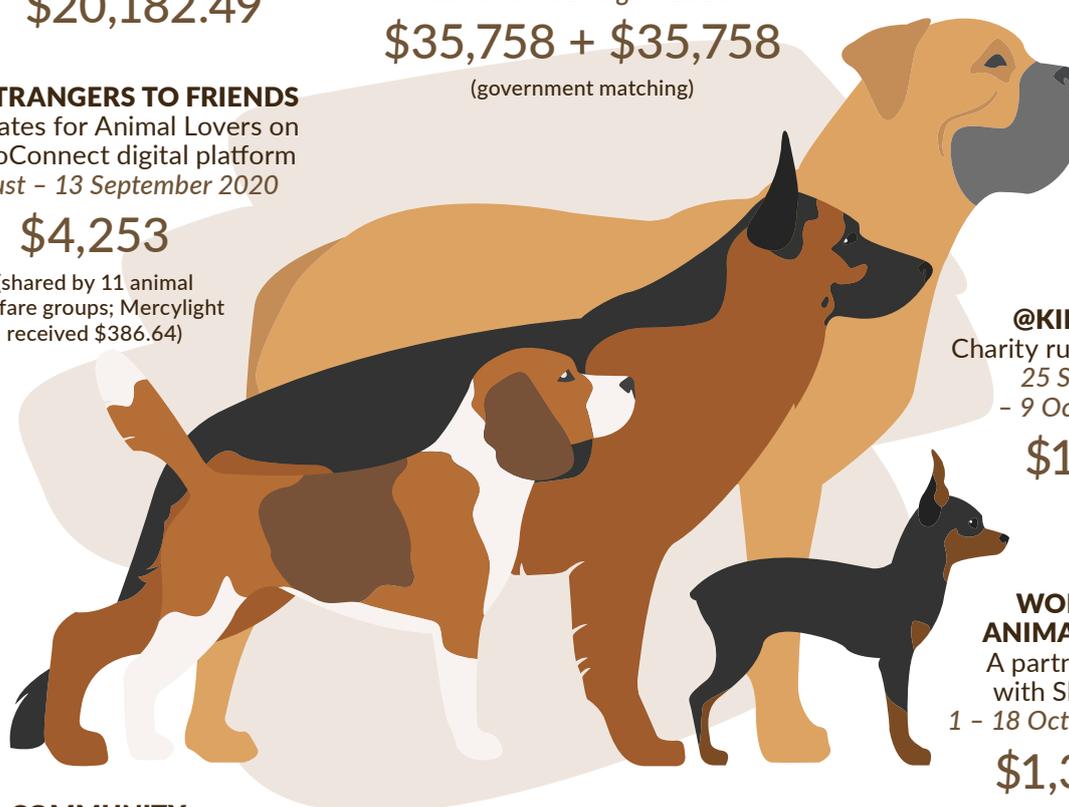
\$31,752 + \$31,752

(government matching:
raised as of 31 December 2020)

25 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

A partnership with Shopee
4 - 31 December 2020

\$1,178



OUR BOARD

The Board of Directors is committed to advancing Mercylight's mission, ensuring compliance with its constitution and attaining high standards of corporate governance and accountability to our stakeholders.

Due to the small size of the charity, Mercylight does not have committees to oversee specific areas. Board members render their services on a voluntary basis, thus, none of the Board members receive remuneration for their Board services. Kelly Lim, a Board Member, is currently a full-time employee (Shelter Manager) of Mercylight and was receiving salary from 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2020. She abstains from any discussions and decision making to avoid a conflict of interest.

The Board of Directors held 3 meetings in 2020.

Board Member	Date Appointed	Attendance
Mr Samuel Lim Wai Young Chairman	April 2020	3/3
Mr Toh Khai Yeow Vice-Chairman	April 2020	3/3
Ms Lim Bee Lan (Lin Meilan) Treasurer	April 2020	3/3
Ms Lim Mui Wee Secretary	January 2015	3/3
Ms Kelly Lim Member	January 2015	3/3
Ms Tan Ming Ming Karen Member	April 2019	3/3
Mr Tan Tong Leng Member	April 2020	3/3

Mr Samuel Lim Wai Young

*Chairman
Trading Manager, Vitol Asia Pte Ltd*

Samuel Lim holds a Chemical Engineering Degree from the National University of Singapore and an MBA from Victoria University, Australia. He has held senior managerial positions in various multinationals. He works as a Trading Manager in a European Energy and Commodities Company for the Asia Pacific.

Mr Toh Khai Yeow

*Vice-Chairman
Finance Director, Kian Hong Holding Pte Ltd*

Khai Yeow has a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He is Director of Kian Hong Holdings (Pte) Ltd and 6 other Malaysian companies. A generous supporter of animal welfare, he has a penchant for dogs and pets, and enjoys working for a good and greater cause.

Ms Lim Bee Lan

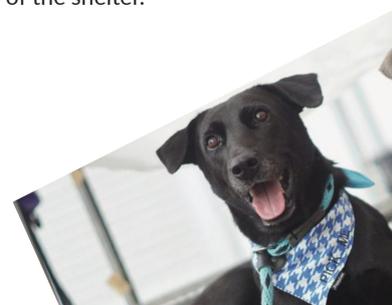
*Treasurer
Finance Manager, Far East Management (Private) Limited*

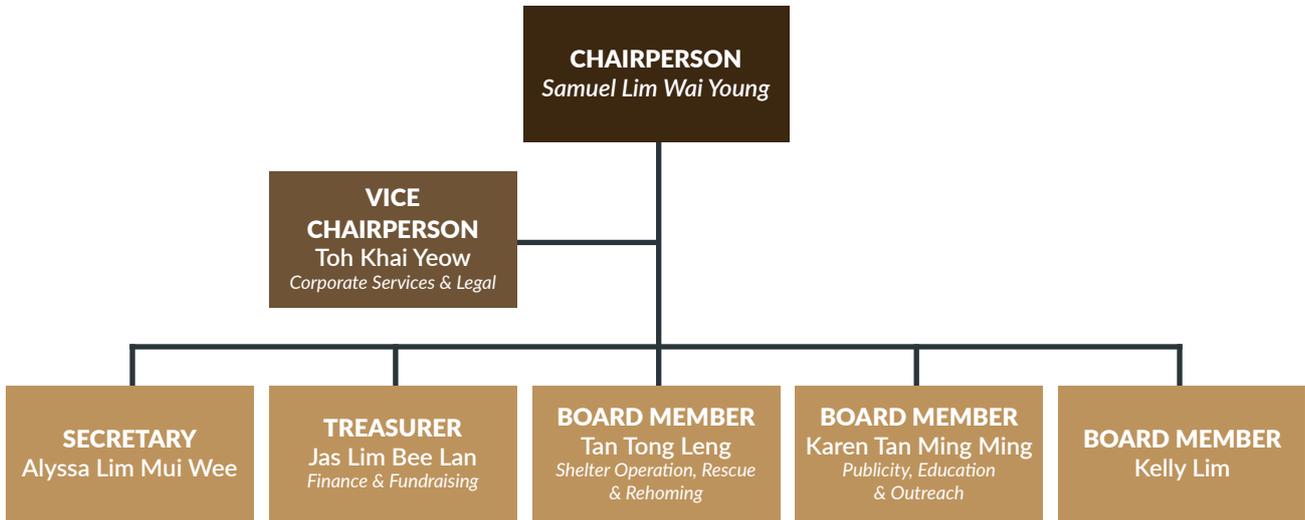
Bee Lan holds a Bachelor of Accountancy Degree from Nanyang Technological University. She is also a Chartered Accountant of Singapore with the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants. Currently, she works as Finance Manager for Far East Management (Private) Limited. She has more than 20 years of experience in audit, accounting, and finance-related work.

Ms Lim Mui Wee

*Secretary
Education Officer, Ministry of Education*

Mui Wee holds a Business Administration Degree from the National University of Singapore and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Education from the Nanyang Technological University. She works as an Education Officer for the Ministry of Education. She has been involved in the set-up of Mercylight and is currently actively involved in the running of the shelter.





Ms Lim Kelly

Member

General Manager, Mercylight Animal Rescue And Sanctuary Limited

Kelly Lim holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree with merit from the National University of Singapore. Kelly is the Founder of Mercylight and has been actively involved in animal welfare for the past 12 years. She is currently the General Manager of the shelter.

Ms Tan Ming Ming Karen

Member

Director, Nonslip Solutions Pte Ltd

Karen Tan is currently a Director at Nonslip Solutions Pte Ltd, which deals with various coating treatment. Karen has been actively involved in the welfare of animals in the last 10 years.

Mr Tan Tong Leng

Member

Operations Manager, Oil and Gas Company

Tong Leng is an experienced operation management practitioner with about 30 years' experience. He has worked in a variety of leadership and talent development roles. Tong Leng has been actively involved in various self-help groups and has a keen interest in the welfare of animals.



OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Management Team is headed by its Founder Kelly Lim. She is supported by six key position holders, who render their services on a voluntary basis:

Faith Teng
Publicity

Alyssa Lim
Finance

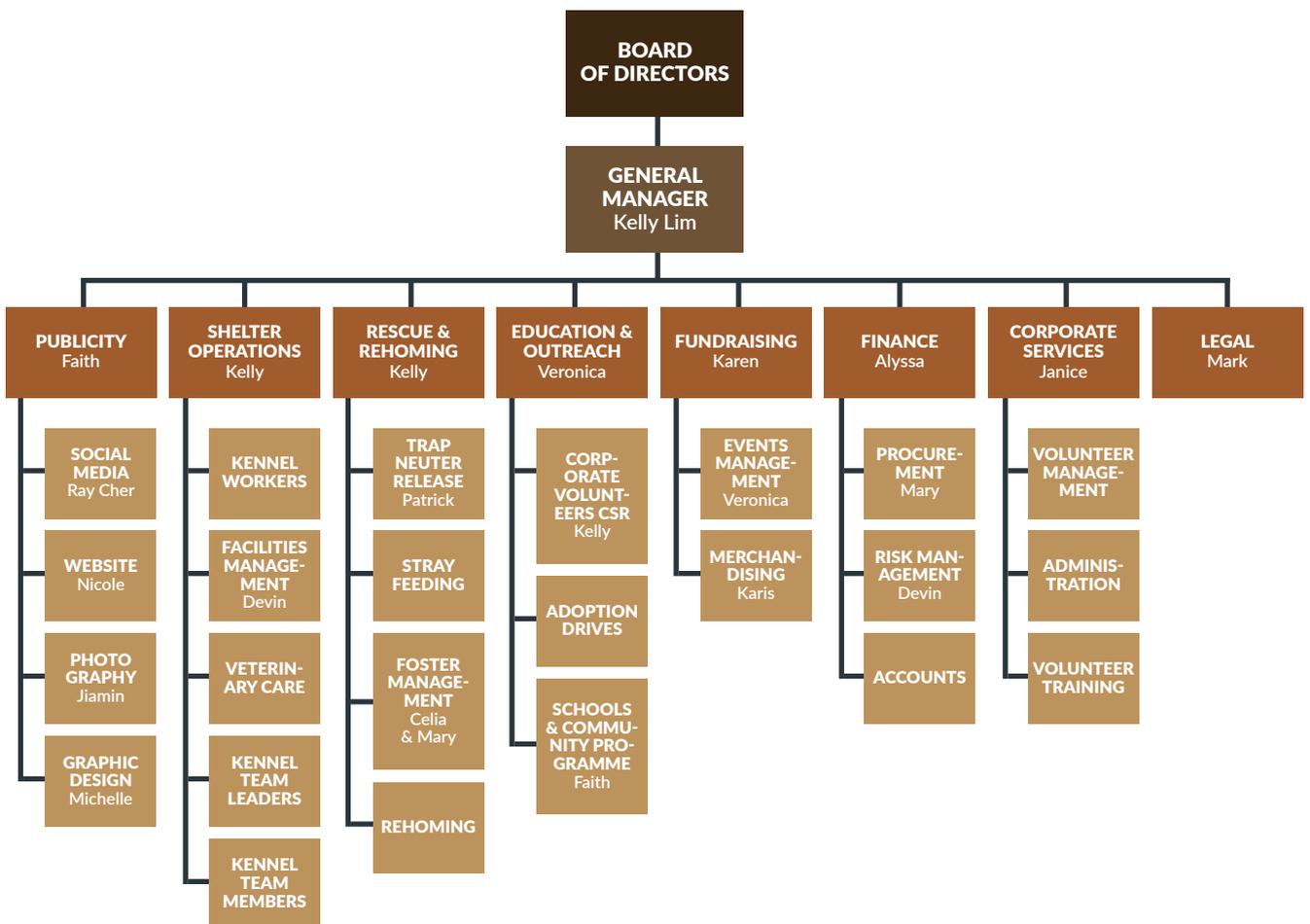
Veronica Tan
Education & Outreach

Janice Khoo
Corporate Services

Karen Tan
Fundraising

Mark Quek
Legal

In addition to one full-time staff, Mercylight employs part-time kennel assistants during busy times. Otherwise, the operations are wholly volunteer run. None of the staff members receives more than \$100,000 in annual remuneration.



GOVERNANCE POLICIES

Conflict of Interest

The Board has established a Conflict of Interest Policy to assist in identifying and managing potential areas of conflict. All directors and key management personnel are required to disclose to the Board any situation of conflict that may arise. They abstain from decision-making when conflicts of interest arise.

Reserves & Investments

Mercylight aims to build a reserve that is equivalent to one year of its operating expenditure. Mercylight does not maintain any restricted, designated or endowment funds apart from a current account for operational expenditures and deposits.

Loans

Mercylight does not provide any loans to any director, employee, board committee member or any other parties.

Donations

Mercylight does not make donations to any external parties. Mercylight occasionally receives cash donations. Most donations are in the form of cheque or bank transfers through its website, and platforms such as NVPC's Giving.sg, Give.asia, and Benevity. A monthly Sponsorship Statement is emailed to the donors if the donors have made known their emails.

Other Policies

In addition to the above, Mercylight is working to review and update the following policies:

- Board Policies & Procedures
- Volunteers Management Policies & Procedures
- Fund-Raising Policies & Procedures
- Human Resource Policies
- Finance Manual

CODE OF GOVERNANCE

S/N	Code Guideline	Code ID	Response	Explanation
Board Governance				
1	Induction and orientation are provided to incoming governing board members upon joining the Board.	1.1.2	Complied	
	Are there governing board members holding staff ¹ appointments? (skip items 2 and 3 if "No")		Yes	
2	Staff does not chair the Board and does not comprise more than one third of the Board.	1.1.3	Complied	
3	There are written job descriptions for the staff's executive functions and operational duties, which are distinct from the staff's Board role.	1.1.5	Complied	
4	The Treasurer of the charity (or any person holding an equivalent position in the charity, e.g. Finance Committee Chairman or a governing board member responsible for overseeing the finances of the charity) can only serve a maximum of 4 consecutive years . If the charity has not appointed any governing board member to oversee its finances, it will be presumed that the Chairman oversees the finances of the charity.	1.1.7	Complied	
5	All governing board members must submit themselves for re-nomination and re-appointment , at least once every 3 years.	1.1.8	Complied	
6	There are documented terms of reference for the Board and each of its committees.	1.2.1	Complied	
Conflict of Interest				
7	There are documented procedures for governing board members and staff to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Board at the earliest opportunity.	2.1	Complied	
8	Governing board members do not vote or participate in decision making on matters where they have a conflict of interest.	2.4	Complied	
Human Resource and Volunteer² Management				
9	The Board approves documented human resource policies for staff.	5.1	Complied	
Financial Management and Internal Controls				
10	There is a documented policy to seek the Board's approval for any loans, donations, grants or financial assistance provided by the charity which are not part of the charity's core charitable programmes.	6.1.1	Complied	
11	The Board ensures that internal controls for financial matters in key areas are in place with documented procedures .	6.1.2	Complied	

S/N	Code Guideline	Code ID	Response	Explanation
12	The Board ensures that reviews on the charity's internal controls, processes, key programmes and events are regularly conducted.	6.1.3	Complied	
13	The Board approves an annual budget for the charity's plans and regularly monitors the charity's expenditure.	6.2.1	Complied	
	Does the charity invest its reserves (e.g. in fixed deposits)? (skip item 14 if "No")		No	
14	The charity has a documented investment policy approved by the Board.	6.4.3	N/A	
Fundraising Practices				
	Did the charity receive cash donations (solicited or unsolicited) during the financial year? (skip item 15 if "No")		Yes	
15	All collections received (solicited or unsolicited) are properly accounted for and promptly deposited by the charity.	7.2.2	Complied	
	Did the charity receive donations in kind during the financial year? (skip item 16 if "No")		Yes	
16	All donations in kind received are properly recorded and accounted for by the charity.	7.2.3	Complied	
Disclosure and Transparency				
17	The charity discloses in its annual report – (a) the number of Board meetings in the financial year; and (b) the attendance of every governing board member at those meetings.	8.2	Complied	
	Are governing board members remunerated for their services to the Board? (skip items 18 and 19 if "No")		No	
18	No governing board member is involved in setting his own remuneration.	2.2	N/A	
19	The charity discloses the exact remuneration and benefits received by each governing board member in its annual report. OR The charity discloses that no governing board member is remunerated.	8.3	N/A	
	Does the charity employ paid staff? (skip items 20 and 21 if "No")		Yes	
20	No staff is involved in setting his own remuneration.	2.2	Complied	
21	The charity discloses in its annual report – (a) the total annual remuneration for each of its 3 highest paid staff who each has received remuneration (including remuneration received from the charity's subsidiaries) exceeding \$100,000 during the financial year; and (b) whether any of the 3 highest paid staff also serves as a governing board member of the charity. The information relating to the remuneration of the staff must be presented in bands of \$100,000. OR The charity discloses that none of its paid staff receives more than \$100,000 each in annual remuneration.	8.4	Complied	

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position

as at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020	2019
		\$	\$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	115,432	33,809
Other receivables	5	429	715
Inventories	6	2,641	2,785
		118,502	37,309
Non-current assets			
Right-of-use assets	7	4,365	46,412
Total assets		122,867	83,721
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	21,059	8,930
Lease liabilities	9	6,646	38,751
Current income tax liabilities	13	-	-
		27,705	47,681
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	9	-	9,770
Total liabilities		27,705	57,451
Net assets		95,162	26,270
FUND			
Accumulated Fund		95,162	26,270
Total fund		95,162	26,270

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the audited financial statements

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020	2019
		\$	\$
INCOME			
Donations	2.2(a)	294,063	125,668
Sales of goods	2.2(b)	17,830	656
		311,893	126,324
Other income	10	31,941	-
EXPENDITURE			
Changes in inventories		(144)	(343)
Purchases of inventories		(4,781)	-
Depreciation of right-to-use assets	7	(25,902)	(37,129)
Interest expense	9	(970)	(3,320)
Staff costs	11	(33,699)	(31,993)
Operating expenses	12	(209,446)	(105,254)
Total expenditure		(274,942)	(178,039)
Surplus / (Deficit) before income tax		68,892	(51,715)
Income tax expense	13	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year / Total comprehensive income / (loss) for the year		68,892	(51,715)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the audited financial statements

Statement Of Changes In Accumulated Fund

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Accumulated Fund
	<hr/> \$
As at 1 January 2019	77,985
Deficit for the year / Total comprehensive loss for the year	(51,715)
As at 31 December 2019	<hr/> 26,270
Surplus for the year / Total comprehensive income for the year	68,892
As at 31 December 2020	<hr/> 95,162 <hr/>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the audited financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020	2019
		\$	\$
<u>Cash flows from operating activities</u>			
Surplus / (Deficit) before income tax		68,892	(51,715)
<u>Adjustments for:-</u>			
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	7	25,902	37,129
Interest expense	9	970	3,320
Operating cash flows before working capital changes		95,764	(11,266)
<u>Changes in working capital</u>			
Other receivables		286	880
Inventories		144	343
Trade and other payables		12,129	6,469
		12,559	7,692
Cash generated from / (used in) operations		108,323	(3,574)
Income tax paid	13	-	(741)
Net cash generated from / (used in) operating activities		108,323	(4,315)
<u>Cash flows from financing activities</u>			
Principal payment of lease liability		(25,730)	(35,020)
Interest paid		(970)	(3,320)
Net cash used in financing activities		(26,700)	(38,340)
Changes in cash and cash equivalents during the financial year		81,623	(42,655)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		33,809	76,464
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	4	115,432	33,809

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the audited financial statements

COMPANY INFORMATION

Company Registration Number
201502278Z

**Registered Under Company Act,
(Chapter 50)**
Public Company Limited By Guarantee

Incorporation Date
22 January 2015

Registered Address
59 Sungei Tengah Road
#02-43 Singapore 699014

**Date Registered As A Charity
Under The Charities Act**
8 May 2020

Company Secretaries
Yew Sook Lian

Banker
United Overseas Bank

Auditor
J Tan & Co

Members
Mr Samuel Lim Wai Young
Mr Toh Khai Yeow
Ms Lim Bee Lan (Lin Meilan)
Ms Lim Mui Wee
Ms Kelly Lim
Ms Tan Ming Ming Karen
Mr Tan Tong Leng

CONTACT INFORMATION

Alyssa Lim
Director

blessings@mercylight.org.sg
Tel: 9180 7838



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 facebook.com/MercylightAdoption

 instagram.com/mercylightsg

