

2023



# ANNUAL REPORT



**Saving lives of children with cancer through excellence in medical care, research and education.**



# Making a Difference Volunteer Needed

SCAN ME



We are looking for dedicated and passionate **volunteers**. You have the opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of children with cancer.

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# ABOUT VIVA

**The VIVA Foundation for Children with Cancer was incorporated in Singapore on 6 February 2006 as a Public Company Limited by Guarantee. It was registered under the Charities Act on 25 April 2006, with Institution of Public Character (IPC) status.**

UEN: 200601578E

Charity Registration No.: 01961

IPC Effective Period: 15 May 2021 – 14 May 2024  
*(Renewal obtained 15 May 2024 - 14 May 2027)*

HEF Registration Number: HEF 0105/G

Registered Address: 8 Sinaran Drive  
#03-01 VIVA Hub  
Novena Specialist Center  
Singapore 307470

Chairman: Mrs Jennifer Yeo  
(Mdm Leong Lai Peng)

Auditors: Assurance Partners LLP

Bankers: Bank of China  
DBS Bank Ltd  
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Ltd  
United Overseas Bank Ltd

# OBJECTIVES

To improve the cure rate of children with cancer and to help survivors thrive, so that they can live long, healthy, happy and meaningful lives through:



## RESEARCH

Partnering and funding scientists and doctors in key projects and clinical research.



## MEDICAL CARE

Providing support to develop the best facilities and the best level of care.



## LIFE PROGRAMME

Supporting children with cancer and survivors in getting back on their feet and contributing back to society as healthy and equipped individuals.



## EDUCATION

Empowering doctors, nurses and care-providers through training and knowledge sharing.

# MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN



Dear friends of VIVA,

The past year at VIVA has been marked by innovation, collaboration, and significant achievements in pediatric oncology.

Our collaboration with partners at VIVA China and more recently, VIVA Indonesia, further advance our vision of a world without childhood cancer. While VIVA Indonesia and VIVA China are separate entities of VIVA Foundation for Children with Cancer, their significantly larger sample size expedites the research effort. In conjunction with initiatives such as the Sydney Brenner-VIVA Translational Research Fellowship, we demonstrate our commitment to raise the cure rate of childhood cancer.

In 2023, VIVA embraced innovation, successfully executing the VIVA Education Programme in a hybrid format, including the 17th St. Jude-VIVA Forum in Paediatric Oncology. This allowed us to transcend physical boundaries, offering a blend of in-person and virtual participation across 28 sessions, with 8,107 registrations from 57 countries.

Collaborations with partners, such as Singapore Chung Hwa Medical Institution and Miltenyi Biotec, enriched our initiatives, allowing us to offer the first TCM health talk series and the VIVA cell and gene therapy symposium at VIVA Hub.

VIVA Foundation, in collaboration with VIVA Indonesia, is working hard to launch CAR-T cell therapy in Indonesia. Additionally, there are plans to start a study group on ALL, modeled after the China study group. The China study group, a project of VIVA China, involves 15,000 children across more than 26 hospitals.

On 30 August 2023, the National University of Singapore introduced the George and Jennifer Yeo Professorship in Pediatric Oncology and appointed Prof Rupert Handgretinger, in consultation with VIVA, as the inaugural professor in this endowed chair. Prof Handgretinger has been a longstanding member of the VIVA External Advisory Board since VIVA's inception in 2006.

Moreover, on 28 November 2023, Carla Brenner, daughter of the late Nobel Prize Laureate Dr Sydney Brenner bestowed four prestigious medals to VIVA. These medals, including the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, will be safeguarded by VIVA, symbolising our dedication to saving the lives of children with cancer. In collaboration with the Sydney Brenner Charitable Trust in the United Kingdom, VIVA launched the Sydney Brenner-VIVA Translational Research Fellowship, aimed at nurturing young scientists from developing nations to enhance childhood cancer cure rates in their home countries upon completion of the fellowship.

Concurrently, VIVA launched the VIVA Translational Research Programme under the leadership and guidance of Prof Rupert Handgretinger and our supporters. Through the Research Programme, we aim to bring in experts from around the world to collaborate closely with Prof Handgretinger on translational research. All the above collaborations will not only involve active engagement with our local partner hospitals but also establish fellowships that will drive innovative research activities within Singapore, benefitting our local healthcare ecosystem.

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Additionally, the establishment of the VIVA Cell and Gene Therapy Academy, a research lab supported by Miltenyi Biotec, will offer comprehensive training programs for healthcare professionals in Singapore and the broader region. This further underscores our commitment to innovation and advancement in pediatric oncology.

Our overarching aim remains steadfast: to save more lives of children battling cancer. We are dedicated to elevating cure rates in Singapore and the surrounding region by facilitating the translation of laboratory discoveries into personalised treatments. Furthermore, we are addressing the long-term challenges faced by childhood cancer survivors, ranging from physical to mental health concerns.

Our Life Programme for survivors witnessed over 10 in-person events, offering a spectrum of activities from tuition to violin classes and swimming lessons. The survivorship programme for healthcare professionals, the first of its kind globally, continued to thrive with the second and third series poised to carry this momentum into 2024.

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported us this year, including the organising committee of the fundraising concert, 'FIVERA goes West End with Joanna Ampil,' held at Singapore Botanic Gardens as well as Esplanade Theatre. Special gratitude to all our donors, volunteers, and supporters who have played a pivotal role in improving the lives of children with cancer and their families.

To each of you, our deepest appreciation for your unwavering support throughout the year. Your kindness and generosity have made a profound difference in the lives of children with cancer and their families. While this year presented its challenges, it was also filled with opportunities, and we are proud of the progress made in providing essential support and care to those who need it most.

As we look ahead to 2024, let's carry the spirit of gratitude with us. Together, we can continue making a positive impact and fostering hope for children facing the challenges of cancer.

With heartfelt gratitude and warm wishes,

**Mrs Jennifer Yeo**

Chairman (pro bono) and Founder  
VIVA Foundation for Children with Cancer



# VIVA-NUS CHILDHOOD CANCER PROGRAMME

## VIVA-UNIVERSITY CHILDREN'S CANCER'S CENTRE (VUC3)

Through the generous support of donors, VIVA established the VIVA University Children's Cancer Centre to improve treatment for complex cancers and leukaemia in children. Our contributions made this vision a reality, driving ongoing efforts at NUH. For more information, see the community partnerships section on page 39.

The VIVA-University Children's Cancer Centre (VUC3) stands as VIVA's inaugural hub of excellence in pediatric cancer care. Nestled within the National University Hospital (NUH), it offers a comprehensive range of treatments, including advanced cellular therapies and the right setting of care with a 16-bed Day Therapy Centre dedicated to chemotherapy.



In 2023, the VUC3 remained steadfast in its commitment to providing exceptional medical care to children battling cancer, serving 80 patients throughout the year. The centre witnessed 570 inpatient visits and 6085 outpatient visits in 2023.

Between 2018 and 2023, VUC3 administered 68 CAR-T products to 44 children. This encompassed cases where children required multiple products, such as CAR T CD19 and CD22, or recurrent infusions. Among these 44 children, nine received funding from the VIVA-Goh HJ fund between February 2021 and December 2023.

Source: Provided by NUS to VIVA Foundation for the Year 2023.

## Medical Care (2023)

570 Inpatient Visits

6085 Outpatient Visits

16 CAR-T Cell Therapy

14 Bone Marrow Transplant

## VIVA-NUH CENTRE OF TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN ACUTE LEUKEMIA (CENTRAL)



VIVA-NUS Centre for Translational Research in Acute Leukaemia (CENTRAL) was made possible through the generous contribution of donors and partners brought together by VIVA. For more information, see the community partnerships section on page 38. Established in 2014, CENTRAL emerged through a collaborative effort between VIVA and the National University of Singapore (NUS). CENTRAL's primary aim centred on enhancing the cure rates and quality of life for individuals grappling with leukaemia and hematologic cancers in Singapore and across Asia. This was to be achieved through precise leukaemia classification, prediction and determination of treatment response.

Source: Provided by NUS to VIVA Foundation for the Year 2023.

# VIVA-GOH FOUNDATION PROFESSORSHIP IN PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY

The funds raised by VIVA to establish the VIVA Paediatric Oncology Fund aim to achieve excellence in childhood cancer treatment through translational and clinical research, training and education for medical professionals, and establishing a professorship in pediatric oncology. For more information, see the community partnerships section on page 39.

The VIVA-Goh Professorship provides academic leadership in teaching and research, focusing on cell-based therapy, childhood leukaemia, post-care for cancer survivors, and sarcomas.



**Professor Allen Yeoh  
Eng Juh**

**Re-appointed from  
1 November 2023 to  
31 October 2026**

**On 1 July 2023,  
Professor Allen Yeoh has  
been promoted to  
Full Professor.**

In 2012, Associate Professor Allen Yeoh was appointed as the VIVA-Goh Foundation Associate Professor in Paediatric Oncology at the National University of Singapore (NUS). This role aims to advance pediatric cancer care in Singapore and across Asia, enabling A/Prof Yeoh to further the treatment of childhood leukaemia both locally and internationally.

In July 2023, A/Prof Allen Yeoh was promoted to full Professor. Additionally, he assumed a new role within the Dean's Office, where he will be responsible for evaluating Promotion & Tenure applications from Assistant Professors to Associate Professors in the Department of Paediatrics for a two-year term, commencing in January 2024.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Professor Allen Yeoh for his elevation to full professorship in 2023. His unwavering commitment to enhancing the lives of children with leukaemia has left a significant imprint not only in Singapore but also across Southeast Asia.

Source: Provided by NUS to VIVA Foundation for the Year 2023.

# VIVA-KKH PAEDIATRIC BRAIN AND SOLID TUMOUR PROGRAMME



*Credit to KK Women's and Children's Hospital*

## Medical Care and Achievements

\$6.8 million	Grants
124	Publications
127	Presentations

VIVA raised funds and donated to KK Women's and Children's Hospital in establishing the VIVA-KKH paediatric and solid tumour (PBST) programme. This programme aims at advancing the treatment and cures for children with brain-solid tumours in Singapore and the Asia Pacific. For more information see the community partnerships section on page 38.

Established in 2015, the VIVA-KKH Paediatric Brain and Solid Tumour Programme represents a collaborative effort between VIVA, KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH), and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This program aims to advance the understanding and treatment of childhood brain and solid tumours through a multifaceted approach encompassing clinical care, translational research, and education. By leveraging the collective expertise and resources of partner institutions, the program seeks to drive meaningful progress in this critical area of pediatric oncology.

By the end of 2023, the Program has contributed significantly to research, yielding 124 publications in peer-reviewed journals and delivering 127 presentations. Principal Investigators (PIs) supported by the Program have secured 29 competitive grants, totalling over \$6.8 million, to supplement the Program's funding.

The Fellowship Program supported by the VIVA-KKH PBST Programme has trained a total of 9 clinical fellows/observers as of the end of 2023. This includes 5 observerships in pediatric pathology and 4 fellowships in pediatric surgical oncology. Notably, in 2023, the program accepted its first pediatric neurosurgical oncology fellow, scheduled to commence a year-long fellowship in January 2024.

Since its inception, the Programme has introduced and initiated the deployment of six essential new laboratory-developed tests tailored specifically for pediatric brain and solid tumours. The multi-disciplinary team clinic dedicated to brain tumours has consistently enhanced patient care by streamlining consultations, allowing patients to save time and receive comprehensive guidance in a single outpatient setting. Furthermore, there has been a noticeable uptick in patient consultations at the molecular tumour board, indicating growing interest and engagement in personalized treatment approaches.

## Multidisciplinary Tumour Boards (2023)

34 patients

Molecular  
Tumour  
Board

49 patients

Brain  
Tumour  
Board

189 patients

Solid  
Tumour  
Board

Since its launch in January 2017, the brain tumour multi-disciplinary team clinic has remained instrumental in enhancing patient care for individuals grappling with brain tumours. By consolidating consultations into a single outpatient clinic, patients experience streamlined care and significant time savings. The clinic brings together a range of clinical disciplines, including neurosurgery, neuro-oncology, palliative care, endocrinology, rehabilitation, dermatology, and neurology, ensuring comprehensive and holistic support.

Since its establishment in 2018, the Molecular Tumor Board has witnessed a surge in patient consultations. These multidisciplinary meetings are dedicated to evaluating genomic findings in patients with brain and solid tumours. The aim is to identify suitable targeted treatments or ascertain cancer predisposition syndromes, thereby leveraging the enhanced molecular pathology and cancer genetics capabilities of KKH to deliver impactful translational outcomes to patients.

**Table 1. Achievements (Molecular Diagnostics & Clinical Improvement), from Year 2015–2023**

Relevance indicators	Utilisation of new clinical services and laboratory-developed tests		Cumulative till	
			End 2022	November 2023
		- Clinical (attendances)		
		➤ BTMDT	261	330
		- Laboratory (cases)	See note*	See note*
		➤ Pan-sarcoma	655	770
		➤ Archer FusionPlex Pan Solid Tumour Panel*	31	33
			21	See note**
		➤ Nanostring medullo	8	56
			85	93
		➤ Nanostring Glioma		
		➤ Childhood Cancer Panel		
		- Wilms tumour loss of heterozygosity (LOH)		

BTMDT: Brain Tumour Multi-Disciplinary Team clinic

\*Archer® FusionPlex® Pan Solid Tumour Panel, which has a larger Pan solid tumour panel (129 genes), has replaced both the Sarcoma (26 genes) and Solid Tumour (56 genes) panels since November 2019

(Source: Neurosurgical Service, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and VIVA-KKH PBST Programme, KKH)

Source: Information on VIVA-KKH PBST Achievements provided by KKH to VIVA Foundation for the Year 2023

# LAUNCH OF GEORGE AND JENNIFER YEO PROFESSORSHIP IN PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY



Source: Medical Channel Asia and NUS

VIVA Foundation for Children with Cancer celebrates the establishment of the George and Jennifer Yeo Professorship in Paediatric Oncology by the National University of Singapore (NUS) on 30th August 2023. This prestigious professorship embodies our shared commitment to elevating cure rates for children with cancer in Singapore and beyond.

Named in honour of Mr and Mrs George and Jennifer Yeo, this professorship pays tribute to their remarkable contributions in providing hope to families affected by cancer. Mrs Jennifer Yeo's journey as a mother of a childhood cancer survivor has driven her passionate advocacy for improved treatments and outcomes. Alongside her husband, George Yeo, Jennifer has been actively involved in the VIVA Foundation, demonstrating her dedication to advancing paediatric oncology.

The establishment of this professorship not only recognises Jennifer's invaluable efforts but also underscores our collective goal of enhancing healthcare for children with cancer. Through innovative partnerships and research initiatives, we aim to nurture the next generation of leaders in paediatric oncology, ensuring that every child battling cancer receives the best possible care and support. The George and Jennifer Yeo Professorship stands as a beacon of hope, inspiring renewed efforts in the fight against childhood cancer.

## LAUNCH OF SYDNEY BRENNER-VIVA FELLOWSHIPS



The VIVA Visionary Voyage on 28 November 2023, aboard the White Rabbit Golf Boat marked a fresh start in our mission to support children fighting cancer. A key moment was the presentation of Sydney Brenner's Nobel Prize medal in Physiology or Medicine (2002) to the VIVA Foundation.

In collaboration with the Sydney Brenner Charitable Trust in the UK, VIVA introduced the Sydney Brenner-VIVA Translational Research Fellowship. This program aims to train young scientists from developing countries to improve childhood cancer cure rates in their home countries.

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# VIVA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

After two years of adapting to the COVID-19 challenges, VIVA successfully organised the VIVA Education Programme this year in a hybrid format. This approach, combining in-person and virtual participation, offered attendees flexibility in choosing their preferred mode of engagement. The hybrid model not only addressed pandemic uncertainties but also embraced technology for broader accessibility and inclusivity.

## 2023 SNAPSHOT



**8,107**  
registrations

from  
**57**  
countries

**28** sessions  
**11** Virtual   **16** Hybrid   **1** In-Person



# ST. JUDE-VIVA SURVIVORSHIP WEBINAR SERIES

The St. Jude-VIVA Survivorship Webinar Series remains dedicated to educating healthcare providers about the medical and psychological risks associated with childhood cancer and its therapy.



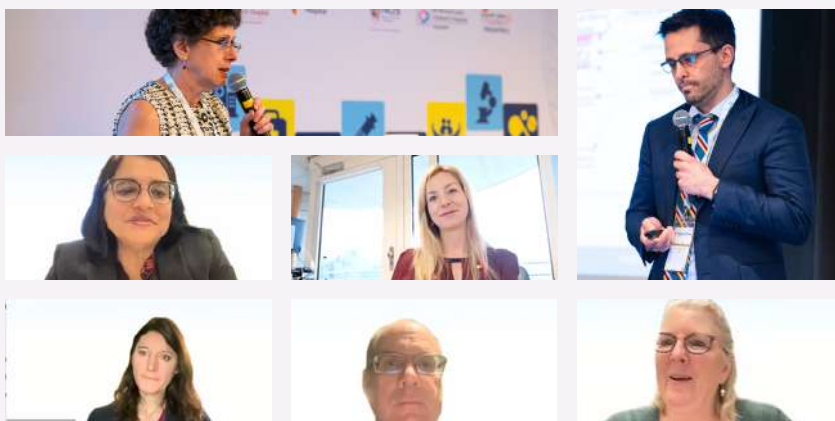
## SERIES 2

Series 2 shifted its focus from lectures to case presentations and discussions, concentrating on the application of survivorship methods and therapies in high, middle, and low-income countries. The series concluded in March 2023, with a remarkable 2,944 registrations from participants across 51 countries.



## SERIES 3

On 17 November 2023, Series 3 began with two sessions. So far, the series has received a total of 809 registrants from 44 countries.



We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Prof Melissa Hudson and the entire faculty, as well as co-moderators, for their unwavering commitment and efforts in making this series a resounding success. Their hard work and dedication have truly made a difference in the lives of countless individuals.

# 17TH ST. JUDE-VIVA FORUM IN PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY

The St. Jude-VIVA Forum in Paediatric Oncology (SJVF) organised by VIVA Foundation for Children with Cancer in partnership with the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, the National University Healthcare System (NUHS), and the KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH) is an annual platform providing educational talks for healthcare professionals in Asia and all over the world to advance knowledge and collaboration in pediatric oncology.

After two years of virtual conferences due to COVID-19, the 17th SJVF returned in March 2023 in a hybrid format, spanning multiple locations including VIVA-Hub, National University Hospital (NUH), and Sentosa. The event brought together 17 faculty members and over 500 healthcare professionals from 23 countries, reaching a global audience through live streaming with 1,307 registrants from 34 countries. The event featured eight engaging programs, including the St. Jude-VIVA Paediatric Pathology Symposium, VIVA-Asia Blood and Marrow Transplantation Spring School, VIVA-Asia Nursing Symposium, VIVA-Asia Learning Exchange, World Speakers Series Day 1 (Solid Tumors), World Speakers Series Day 2 (Liquid Tumors), and VIVA Family Educational Day.



**1,834** registrations

**34** countries **17** faculty **8** sessions







As part of the forum’s activities, VIVA organised a delightful dinner reception held at the Equarius Ballroom, nestled within Resorts World Sentosa. Over 100 attendees convened for an evening of good food. Attendees from diverse backgrounds also shared the stage in a karaoke session.

They sang songs from their countries and uplifted each other through the universal language of music. The VIVA team also organised a series of social activities to introduce the rich history and vibrant culture of Singapore to attendees from the region. Collaborating with SL Global, activities like the 'Sentosa Mini Trail' and the 'Heritage Tour & Food Tasting' were organised, offering participants a chance to delve into Sentosa's allure while indulging in local delicacies and exploring historical landmarks.

VIVA extended invitations to its beneficiaries to partake in these social endeavours and revel in the delights of Sentosa alongside everyone else. The atmosphere buzzed with camaraderie as attendees mingled, savoured delicious fare, and soaked in the picturesque surroundings. A heartfelt appreciation is extended to all our volunteers and faculty members whose dedication contributed to the resounding success of this forum.





The **VIVA-Asia Rare Tumor Board** webinar continued with its 10th and 11th sessions. Special thanks to Prof Godfrey Chan, Dr Anthony Liu, and all the speakers and panelists who contributed to the series in 2023.



The **VIVA Self Care Programme Webinar** continued and had three sessions focusing on pre-biotics, late effects, and active treatment to active living. A special shoutout to our speakers and moderator, Sister Laura from National University Hospital, for their time and effort.



On 22 November, the **ALL Genetics - VIVA ALL Education Programme - ALL ACADEMY** webinar took place in collaboration with Amgen Biotechnology Singapore and the ALL Academy. We were honored to host Prof Deborah White from the South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute, Prof Chi-Kong Li from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and our moderator, Prof Yok Lam Kwong from Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong.

# VIVA-ASIA BLOOD AND MARROW TRANSPLANT AUTUMN SCHOOL 2023

Hue Central Hospital, Vietnam & Online via Zoom

Wednesday, 23 August 2023



Since 2017, the VABMT Consortium has organised a series of 'VABMT Schools' with the mission of bringing together international and regional experts to educate physicians on the latest advances and best practices in paediatric HSCT.

The VIVA-Asia Blood and Marrow Transplant Autumn School conducted its first hybrid meeting, held at Hue Central Hospital in Vietnam and online via Zoom. We had a total of 6 speakers, 3 in-person and 3 virtual. We thank our speakers, moderators and organising committee for their time and dedication towards the VABMT Schools.

# VIVA CELL AND GENE THERAPY SYMPOSIUM

VIVA Hub

Saturday, 2 September 2023



VIVA hosted its first Cell and Gene Therapy Symposium in partnership with and sponsored by Miltenyi Biotec, held at VIVA Hub and online via Zoom. We had a total of 6 speakers. We thank our speakers, moderators and organising chair for their valuable contributions.

We welcomed 67 in-person registrants from 6 countries and 590 online registrants from a total of 43 nations. Our attendees were treated to a day filled with groundbreaking panel discussions, and mind-blowing presentations all focused on the latest advancements in the field of clinical cellular immunotherapy.

# INFANT ALL TREATMENT

VIVA Hub

Friday, 27 October 2023



VIVA organised the Infant ALL Treatment: VIVA ALL Education Programme—ALL ACADEMY Hybrid Meeting in collaboration with Amgen Biotechnology Singapore and the ALL Academy.

Among the 573 registrants (51 in-person + 522 online), 20 attended the meeting in person, and 162 participated online.

The meeting aims to provide the latest information on Infant ALL Treatment and its role in saving more children with cancer and effectively combating cancer.



# VVA Life Programme





## MINDCHAMPS SCHOLARSHIP

We thank MindChamps for generously donating a scholarship valued at \$200,000, which will benefit cancer-affected children from 1 Jan 2023 to 30 Nov 2023. We are incredibly grateful for the partnership with MindChamps Enrichment Academy, as their dedication to excellence and vision of empowering young minds aligns with our mission at VIVA Foundation.

## LEE KONG CHIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

During the March holidays, VIVA Foundation for Children with Cancer organised an enriching museum tour for our beneficiaries on 15 and 17 March 2023. The Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum (LCKNHM) generously donated 100 tickets to provide our beneficiaries with a wonderful opportunity to delve into the wonders of our natural world.



## VISIT BY TRISTAN LIM TSEN WE

Tristen Lim is a patient who has received palliative treatment for acute myeloid leukaemia. As Tristen is fascinated by dinosaurs, VIVA Foundation organised a visit to the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum (LKNHM) on 14 April 2023. Tristen and his family were given a guided tour around LKNHM to view the laboratory and their specimens.

## HARMONIES ACROSS GENERATIONS CONCERT

The Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra, led by conductor Adrian Chiang and hosted by Lerene Tong, presented "Harmonies Across Generations." In celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival, the Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra extended a warm invitation to VIVA's beneficiaries to bring music and joy to their lives. Our beneficiaries, who were graciously provided with complimentary tickets by the Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra, thoroughly enjoyed the concert.



## AFFORDABLE ART FAIR

The 16th edition of Affordable Art Fair Singapore showcases 1000s of original contemporary artworks by over 80 galleries from 20 countries. It was a joy for budding artists to view high quality and beautiful art paintings and collage to etchings and screen-prints all under one roof.



## VIVA STORYTELLING PROGRAMME

VIVA's Storytelling Programme kicked off on 6 Oct 2023 (Children's Day). During these sessions, we share inspiring stories of resilience, courage and confidence with a live audience of children and parents in Singapore and around the world.

These specially curated stories aim to uplift not only cancer survivors and patients who have bravely faced their own challenges but also children from diverse backgrounds.

## VIVA X GSF VIOLIN CLASS

VIVA x GSF's (Global Strings Federation) collaboration aims to bring the healing power of music to those who need it most, and to inspire others to use their talents and resources for a greater cause. The theme of empowering lives with music will give a new lease of life to the musicians and help them make meaning of their musical knowledge.



## VIVA X SWIM LAB HOLIDAYS SWIM CAMP

The swimming lessons help instill physical activity as a cornerstone of a healthy lifestyle for our beneficiaries. Physical activities also contribute to the mental well-being of participants, fostering resilience and emotional health.



## SNOWSKIN MOONCAKE MAKING WORKSHOP

VIVA organised a snow skin mooncake workshop, welcoming 10 families affected by cancer, including survivors, patients, and their loved ones. Initiated by Francis Koh, Prudential Financial Services Director, the family-oriented program aimed to foster bonding among participants, comprising not only families directly impacted by cancer but also Koh's clients, whom he personally invited to join the event. The workshop, attended by a total of 52 participants, proved to be a joyful and successful experience as attendees, both young and old, relished the opportunity to create their own mooncakes from scratch. The session concluded on a philanthropic note, with Francis Koh generously donating \$10,000 to support the charitable causes championed by VIVA Foundation.



## VIVA X SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS CAROLLING AT KKH AND NUH

The Salvation Army, together with the VIVA team, visited KKH and NUH to perform a medley of Christmas carols, spreading the joy of Christmas.



## VIVA CHRISTMAS PRESENT DISTRIBUTION AT KKH AND NUH

During the festive Christmas season, the VIVA team is eager to bring joy to children by presenting them with gifts. We visited both KKH and NUH to distribute these gifts among the children at the hospitals. We distributed a total of 70 presents to KKH and 50 presents to NUH.



# VIVA Family Educational Day



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# VIVA FAMILY EDUCATIONAL DAY

## Reverly Hall, Sentosa

Sunday, 5 March 2023

The VIVA Family Educational Day took place on 5 March 2023 during the 17th St. Jude-VIVA forum. The programme featured a distinguished panel which consisted of both international and local doctors. With a primary focus on empowering parents, the session aimed to furnish them with invaluable insights, knowledge, and resources concerning their children's treatment and survivorship journey. It served as a unique platform for parents to interact directly with oncology specialists, seeking their guidance and expertise. Moreover, attendees were privileged to hear firsthand accounts from cancer survivors, whose stories resonated deeply, leaving an indelible impression on all present, rendering the event truly unforgettable and impactful.



## VIVA Hub, Singapore

Saturday, 16 December 2023

The second VIVA Family Educational Day took place on 16 December. It was a meaningful event for childhood cancer survivors, caregivers, active patients, and families, filled with informative talks on topics such as "Vaccination after Cancer Treatment," "The Long-Term Follow-Up Clinic," and "Mental Wellness," presented by healthcare professionals. Additionally, there was a sharing session by a survivor and the parents of a survivor. Concurrently, Latin dance workshops were conducted for children by volunteers from the Viva LatiNUS Team, along with engaging art-and-craft activities for families. A Christmas spread was prepared, and Christmas presents sponsored by AIA, Cosentino and HBA were given to all to celebrate the festive season. Indeed, there was something for everyone, and it was a good opportunity for cancer survivors, caregivers, and families to learn, share, and bond.



# VIVA EVENTS



Inspiring Unity and Harmony through Generosity



# CHUNG HWA @ VIVA OPENING CEREMONY 2023

## VIVA Hub

Sunday, 28 May 2023

Our partnership with Singapore Chung Hwa Medical Institution to establish the Chung Hwa TCM Clinic @ VIVA is a significant step forward in supporting cancer patients. This partnership aims to educate the community on preventive healthcare and improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their families. By inviting Singapore Chung Hwa Medical Institution to open a TCM clinic at VIVA Hub, we have created a platform to help patients and parents of children with cancer understand the strengths of complementary medicine so that more cancer patients can benefit. The Chung Hwa@VIVA opening ceremony took place on 28 May 2023, Sunday, at VIVA Hub. The Guest of Honour at the event was Dr Teo Ho Pin, Chairperson of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board (TCMPB). Chairman Liew, Chairman of Singapore Chung Hwa Medical Institution, who was the VIP at the event, delivered a speech on the TCM clinic.



# VIVA CHUNG HWA HEALTH TALKS

## VIVA Hub

21 June - 21 October 2023

In 2023, VIVA kickstarted VIVA-Chung Hwa TCM Health Talks, featuring physicians from Chung Hwa @ VIVA Hub who led hybrid health talks. There were a total of 5 sessions this year. The informative talks equipped the participants with valuable insights on using TCM to improve their health, including the role of acupressure in addressing digestive issues.





## VIVA FIESTA @ BOTANIC GARDENS

### Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage

Saturday, 27 August 2023



Once again, on 27 August 2023, the VIVA Fiesta Concert lit up the Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage at Singapore Botanic Gardens. This year, FIVERA, the renowned Thai pop-opera group, graced the stage alongside Ms Joanna Ampil, an acclaimed West End performer, in a captivating collaboration titled "FIVERA Goes West End with Joanna Ampil." Over 4,000 attendees were enthralled by this magnificent musical extravaganza, contributing to a total fundraising amount of \$534,562.



## VIVA FIESTA @ ESPLANADE THEATRE

### Esplanade Theatre

Tuesday, 29 August 2023

On 29 August 2023, the enchanting melodies of the VIVA Fiesta Concert graced the stage of the Esplanade Theatre. Once again, the ethereal voices of FIVERA, combined with the incomparable talents of Joanna Ampil, wove a musical tapestry that enchanted the senses.

This memorable event was made possible by the generous donation of Glorious Melodies Consultancy (GMC). Thanks to their benevolence, a sum of \$550,891 was raised.

# TEMASEK POLYTECHNIC DONATION

6 October 2023

Students from Temasek Polytechnic unite in a collective effort, channeling their passion and dedication to raise funds to support VIVA's mission.



## CHRISTMAS PRESENT DONATIONS FROM COSENTINO

Cosentino arranged for their guests and clients to bring and donate Christmas gifts for VIVA's beneficiaries at their Christmas event. We thank Maria from Cosentino for initiating this beautiful initiative for 5 years running. We received more than 240 presents from Cosentino, which were distributed to VIVA's beneficiaries during Christmas 2023.



## CHRISTMAS PRESENT DONATIONS FROM HBA

We thank HBA for their donation of Christmas presents for our beneficiaries, which were distributed during Christmas. We thank them for their initiative and generosity in helping children with cancer.



# MUSINGS CHARITY BOOK FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN (CHINESE BOOK)

The Hilton Hotel & The American Club

Thursday, 6 April 2023 and Wednesday, 26 April 2023



Mrs Jennifer Yeo and Mr KK Chua were invited to The Hilton Singapore; Orchard on 6 April 2023 by Dr Eric Wu of Glorious Melodies Consultancy (GMC). At the event, Dr Wu encouraged attendees to donate to VIVA Foundation and he kindly donated \$40,000 personally.

Subsequently, Mr and Mrs Yeo attended a book presentation event organised by Dr Wu on 26 April 2023 at The American Club. Donors were given the Chinese edition of the book "Musings". They were also invited to an intimate sharing session with Mr Yeo, who encouraged them to spread the word and support VIVA Foundation in China.

We would like to thank Dr Eric Wu for providing VIVA Foundation with the opportunity and platform to share its mission.

# APPRECIATION DINNER AND THE PRESENTATION OF MUSINGS

## CHARITY EDITION

Thursday, 30 November 2023



The Appreciation Dinner and the Presentation of Musings Charity Edition took place on 30 November 2023, to express gratitude to our generous donors who contributed to the Musings Charity Edition. The event commenced with a cocktail session, followed by a welcoming speech from Mrs Jennifer Yeo. Donors were treated to a sumptuous buffet dinner, generously sponsored by Sinstant. The evening also featured a brief sharing by Mr Yeo and the presentation of the Trilogy Charity books to the donors.

# VIVA IN THE NEWS

A22 VIEWS

THE SUNDAY TIMES | SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023

LunchWithSumiko

## A life full of miracles

Jennifer Yeo started the Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer in 2006 after her son had leukaemia. She tells executive editor Sumiko Tan her own brush with cancer gave her work there added urgency

When lawyer Jennifer Yeo found out in 2007 that she had a rare and deadly form of nasal cancer, she had a good cry, then told herself she had to accept that she might die.

As a staunch Catholic, she had always believed she would one day be called home to a God she loved. For this to happen, she would have to "enter the door of death," as she puts it. "I told myself I had to be sporting about," she recalls with a gentle smile.

But she could not help thinking that, at 50, she was too young to die. "For a few days, I didn't know what to say to God."

A Bible verse she encountered during those difficult days led her to pray for her life to be saved. She rallied and attempted to seek treatment at the MD Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston, Texas in the United States.

Seven weeks and two rounds of chemotherapy later, a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) found that the big tumour in her head had "melted away" in the words of one of her doctors.

"It was a miracle," she says. She has been well since.

I am meeting Mrs Yeo, 65, founder and chairman of the Viva Foundation for Children With Cancer, at the Country Club in Waterloo Street.

Over the course of our two-and-a-half-hour meal, she mentions the word "miracle" no fewer than 10 times.

She believes it was a miracle that her husband, former Singapore Cabinet minister George Yeo, recovered from a life-threatening case of the measles in 1997.

It was a miracle that her youngest son, Frederick, was cured of childhood leukaemia in the mid-2000s.

It was a miracle that a cancerous tumour was successfully removed from the chest of her elder son, Edward, in 2003.

And it was also a miracle that she recovered from sinusoidal undifferentiated carcinoma, an aggressive cancer that occurs in one in five million people.

"I can tell you more miracles another time," says the mother of four, who has a kind face and an unassuming manner that one easily warms up to.

Five years after she finished her cancer treatment, she is looking very well. She is dressed for the interview in a red printed silk, cream trousers and beige pumps, and her hair is styled in a bob.

The cafe we are meeting at is a social enterprise housed in CANA, The Catholic Centre. We opt for the National Day Special set meal of seven halwa (Indian sweets) served



Mrs Jennifer Yeo wants to tell people that there's always hope, no matter how impossible it seems. ST PHOTO NG SON LIAN



Mrs Jennifer Yeo (middle) with her husband, former Cabinet minister George Yeo, her mother Mary Ho, and children (from left) William, Edward, Edwin and Frederick at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Houston on Dec 10, 2007. PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIFER YEO

maligancy, so it was not related to the cancer. But the pain had led to the discovery of the tumour, which was dangerously near the heart.

Edward did not need any chemotherapy and has been well since. "All he has is a smelly scar from the operation to remove the tumour," Mrs Yeo says.

The experience made her stronger. "When you go through suffering, it's like when you exercise, you become more resilient. But after that, I always say 'please, no more'."

More, unfortunately, was to come.

### HER OWN ORDEAL

In 2002, Mrs Yeo lost her sense of smell and taste showed she had the rare nasal cancer.

She says she cried twice — once at the doctor's office, and again when she lost her job during chemotherapy at MD Anderson in Houston. "I always thought, why should losing her mother, right? But it mattered," she says. A visit to a wig shop lifted her spirits again.

She speaks of her own cancer matter-of-factly, without lev-

### LIVE FEARLESSLY

Ever since then, I have become fearless. Now I tell my children, live fearlessly, be free, the sky's the limit. Do whatever you feel that you love to do because we don't know how long is our time here.

MRS JENNIFER YEO after her illness.

serious mother who was always brutal for her children.

"Ever since then, I have become fearless," she says. "Now I tell my children, live fearlessly, be free, the sky's the limit. Do whatever you feel that you love to do because we don't know how long is our time here."

Edwin runs her most start-up, Edward is a software engineer, William works in a start-up and Frederick is a marine doctor in

## A life full of miracles

### The Sunday Times

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Jennifer Yeo established the Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer in 2006 after her son's successful battle with leukaemia. Her personal experience with cancer has given her work a sense of urgency. The foundation, named "Viva" meaning "life" in Latin, was inspired by gratitude for her son's recovery and a desire to support children and families affected by cancer. VIVA focuses on raising cure rates for childhood cancer through translational research, tailored treatments, and hands-on training for medical personnel.

## Kids conquer cancer

### The Straits Times

13 August 2023

In 2018, Damien Wai was diagnosed with precursor B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia at the age of two. His parents Rebecca Sit and Andre Wai prioritised Damien's well-being over their careers, with Andre taking a nine-month no-pay leave. Despite isolation and chemotherapy hardships causing side effects, the family maintained their values, creatively bringing outdoor activities indoors for Damien. Their story reflects resilience and dedication to providing Damien with a meaningful childhood amid the challenges of childhood cancer.

THE STRAITS TIMES

Sunday, August 13, 2023

## Kids conquer cancer

A child's cancer diagnosis can shake family dynamics — here are families who turned through tough times



Many miracles Jennifer Yeo



Having childhood cancer is "like living with Covid-19"

using their jobs for their child

using their jobs for their child

using their jobs for their child

THE STRAITS TIMES

Sunday, August 13, 2023

## Kids conquer cancer

A child's cancer diagnosis can shake family dynamics — here are families who turned through tough times



Many miracles Jennifer Yeo

using their jobs for their child

using their jobs for their child

# VIVA Foundation's Concert "Spreading Hope" Warms the Hearts of Children with Cancer

LianHe Zaobao

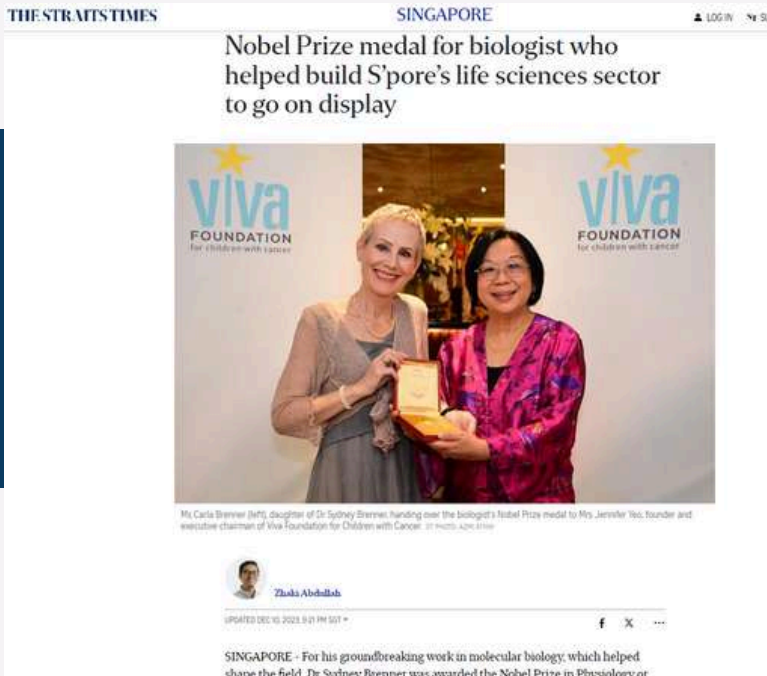
27 August 2023

VIVA Foundation held another open charity concert at the Singapore Botanic Gardens on 27 August 2023, aiming to raise 500,000 dollars for the planned donation fund.

VIVA focuses on saving the lives of children with cancer by organising educational training programs for doctors and nurses and promoting cancer treatment and research. The foundation also assists recovered children in better integrating into normal life.



The screenshot shows a news article from LianHe Zaobao titled "VIVA基金会音乐会'传播希望' 温情暖患癌儿童". The article reports that the VIVA Foundation held a charity concert at the Singapore Botanic Gardens on August 27, 2023, to raise 500,000 dollars for a planned donation fund. It mentions that the foundation focuses on saving the lives of children with cancer through educational training for doctors and nurses, and promoting cancer treatment and research. The article also notes that the foundation assists recovered children in better integrating into normal life. A photograph shows a large audience seated at tables outdoors, watching a performance on a stage with a large screen displaying a colorful scene.



The screenshot shows a news article from The Straits Times titled "Nobel Prize medal for biologist who helped build S'pore's life sciences sector to go on display". The article reports that Mrs. Jennifer Yeo, founder and executive chairman of Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer, announced that the Nobel Prize medal awarded to the late Dr. Sydney Brenner, along with other awards and papers, will be displayed in a gallery. Mrs. Yeo emphasized that the medal symbolizes Dr. Brenner's dedication to advancing humanity through his life's work. The foundation, in collaboration with the Sydney Brenner Charitable Trust, is launching the Sydney Brenner-Viva Research Fellowship to inspire young scientists from developing countries, particularly in pediatric oncology. A photograph shows Mrs. Yeo presenting the Nobel Prize medal to Mrs. Carla Brenner, daughter of Dr. Sydney Brenner. The Viva Foundation logo is visible in the background.

## Nobel Prize medal for biologist who helped build S'pore's life sciences sector to go on display

The Straits Times

13 August 2023

Mrs Jennifer Yeo announced that the Nobel Prize medal awarded to the late Dr Sydney Brenner, along with other awards and papers, will be displayed in a gallery. Mrs Yeo emphasised that the medal symbolises Dr Brenner's dedication to advancing humanity through his life's work. The foundation, in collaboration with the Sydney Brenner Charitable Trust, is launching the Sydney Brenner-Viva Research Fellowship to inspire young scientists from developing countries, particularly in pediatric oncology.



Monday, December 11, 2023

# S'pore to house Nobel Prize medal of late biologist



Ms Carla Brenner, daughter of late biologist Sydney Brenner, with Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer founder and executive chairwoman Jennifer Yeo at the presentation ceremony on Nov 28. ST PHOTO: AZMI ATHNI

## Sydney Brenner helped to build Republic's life sciences sector



Dr Brenner was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2002. He spent the last few years of his life in Singapore, until his death here at the age of 92 in 2019.

Zhaki Abdullah

For his groundbreaking work in molecular biology, which helped shape the field, Dr Sydney Brenner was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2002.

Soon, the late biologist's Nobel Prize medal – considered the highest award in science – will be on display in his adopted home of Singapore.

The Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer, a local charity dedicated to research and medical care, will hold the medal here for at least 30 years as part of a collaboration with the Sydney Brenner Charitable Trust in Britain.

Viva Foundation founder and executive chairwoman Jennifer Yeo said the Nobel Prize medal, together with other awards and papers belonging to Dr Brenner, will be placed in a display gallery, and locations are being shortlisted for this purpose.

The medal reflects the "love, devotion and commitment" that Dr Brenner put into his life's work for the betterment of humanity, Mrs Yeo, the wife of former Cabinet minister George Yeo, told The Straits Times recently.

"We hope to display the medal in a prominent place to inspire other scientists and doctors to rise to the challenge to save more lives and make a positive impact on humanity through their research and clinical treatment," she said.

Together with the Sydney Brenner Charitable Trust, the foundation is also launching the Sydney Brenner-Viva Research Fellowship, which aims to "inspire young scientists from developing countries whilst equipping them with valuable knowledge and skills training".

The fellowship is divided into two categories. The Sydney Brenner-Viva Research Fellowship will be awarded annually to exceptional scientists committed to paediatric oncology, with awardees undergoing 12 months of training with mentoring by Professor Rupert Handgretinger from the Children's University Hospital in Tuebingen, Germany.

Meanwhile, the Sydney Brenner-Viva Travel Fellowship will give recipients the opportunity to participate in the St Jude-Viva Forum in Paediatric Oncology, a tie-up with the St Jude Children's Research Hospital in the United States.

Research fellows must be from a developing country and be committed to return to their home country after the fellowship to contribute to the cure of childhood cancer, said Mrs Yeo.

Dr Brenner and two colleagues won the Nobel Prize for their study on the roundworm *Caenorhabditis elegans* that helped identify key genes regulating organ development and programmed cell death.

Born in South Africa to Jewish immigrants, Dr Brenner spent the last few years of his life in Singapore, until his death here at the age of 92 in 2019. He played a pivotal role in shaping the Republic's life sciences sector, helping to set up the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology here in 1985.

The Nobel laureate, who became Singapore's first honorary citizen in 2003, was scientific adviser to the chairman of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*Star) and head of its Molecular

Engineering Laboratory until his death.

In 2006, A\*Star awarded Dr Brenner the National Science and Technology Medal for his contributions to the development of Singapore's scientific capability, especially in biomedical sciences.

Dr Brenner's daughter, Ms Carla Brenner, presented the Nobel Prize medal to Mrs Yeo at a ceremony on Nov 28. His wife, May, died in 2010.

Speaking at the event, Ms Brenner said her father had grown up poor, and had seen people struggle first-hand.

"In his last years, my father told me that his explicit wish was to enable young scientists from disadvantaged countries who are without any financial support to flourish," she said, adding that he wanted to focus specifically on South Africa and Singapore.

The Nov 28 event, held on the private White Golf Rabbit superyacht in the Marina at Keppel Bay, also saw the Viva Foundation announce the launch of Viva Indonesia, part of its efforts to focus on paediatric oncology in countries with larger child populations.

azhaki@sph.com.sg

# S'pore to house Nobel Prize medal of late biologist

The Straits Times

11 December 2023

In 2006, Dr Sydney Brenner received the National Science and Technology Medal from A\*Star for his significant contributions to Singapore's scientific development, particularly in biomedical sciences. His daughter, Ms Carla Brenner, presented the Nobel Prize medal to Mrs Jennifer Yeo on 28 November 2023. Ms Brenner shared that her father, who grew up in poverty, expressed a wish to support young scientists from disadvantaged countries without financial backing, focusing on South Africa and Singapore.



# Statement of Financial Activities

For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted fund S\$	Endowment fund S\$	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
<b>Income</b>					
Income from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	(4a)	1,129,982	849,828	1,979,810	3,332,306
Activities for generating funds	(4a)	415,690	1,677,832	2,093,522	2,072,352
Income from charitable activities	(4b)	147,989	-	147,989	57,908
Investment income - interest income		293,282	99,515	392,797	20,825
Other income	(4c)	34,544	-	34,544	14,323
<b>Total income</b>		<b>2,021,487</b>	<b>2,627,175</b>	<b>4,648,662</b>	<b>5,497,714</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
Cost of generating funds	(5a)	202,508	227,443	429,951	260,600
Cost of charitable activities	(5b)	796,966	-	796,966	626,727
Governance costs	(5c)	790,846	-	790,846	497,215
<b>Total expenditures</b>		<b>1,790,320</b>	<b>227,443</b>	<b>2,017,763</b>	<b>1,384,542</b>
Net income before income tax expense		231,167	2,399,732	2,630,899	4,113,172
Income tax expense	(6)	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the financial year		231,167	2,399,732	2,630,899	4,113,172
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		27,438,212	2,665,227	30,103,439	25,990,267
Reclassification (Note 1)		11,098	(11,098)	-	-
Total funds carried forward		<b>27,680,477</b>	<b>5,053,861</b>	<b>32,734,338</b>	<b>30,103,439</b>

Note 1: Reclassification relates to expenditure incurred for endowment fund which was charged to unrestricted fund in the previous financial year. During the financial year, a transfer from endowment fund to unrestricted fund was made to account for this expenditure.

Excerpted from the full Audited Financial Report 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2023, which will be attached separately to this Annual Report.

# Statement of Financial Position

For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	(8)	<u>17,995,202</u>	<u>18,468,801</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Other current assets		2,414	2,414
Other receivables	(9)	996,916	395,565
Cash and short-term deposits	(10)	<u>14,006,225</u>	<u>11,297,825</u>
		<u>15,005,555</u>	<u>11,695,804</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accrued expenses	(11)	67,808	11,327
Deposit received		15,843	15,843
Trade and other payables	(12)	<u>182,768</u>	<u>33,996</u>
		<u>266,419</u>	<u>61,166</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>14,739,136</u>	<u>11,634,638</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>32,734,338</u>	<u>30,103,439</u>
<b>Funds of Charity</b>			
Unrestricted fund	(13)	<u>27,680,477</u>	<u>27,438,212</u>
Endowment fund	(13)	<u>5,053,861</u>	<u>2,665,227</u>
<b>Total Funds of Charity</b>		<u>32,734,338</u>	<u>30,103,439</u>

# Statement of Cash Flow

For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 S\$	2022 S\$
<b><u>Cash flows from operating activities</u></b>			
Net income before income tax expense		2,630,899	4,113,172
<u>Adjustments for:</u>			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	(8)	504,541	506,466
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment		1,065	-
Interest income		(392,797)	(20,825)
Operating cash flows before changes in working capital		<u>2,743,708</u>	<u>4,598,813</u>
<u>Changes in working capital:</u>			
Other receivables		(409,488)	22,001
Accrued expenses		56,481	(1,861)
Trade and other payables		148,772	(22,704)
Net cash flow generated from operating activities		<u>2,539,473</u>	<u>4,596,249</u>
<b><u>Cash flow from investing activities</u></b>			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(8)	(32,517)	(3,238)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		510	-
Increase in short-term deposit with maturity over 3 months		(6,198,411)	(20,818)
Interest received		200,934	20,825
Net cash flow used in investing activities		<u>(6,029,484)</u>	<u>(3,231)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and short-term deposits		(3,490,011)	4,593,018
Cash and short-term deposits at 1 January		<u>7,754,257</u>	<u>3,161,239</u>
Cash and short-term deposits at 31 December	(10)	<u>4,264,246</u>	<u>7,754,257</u>

# Community Partnership

(Other Charity Funds)

Community partnerships is a strategic imperative for the Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer (the Charity). These partnerships can enhance financial resources, increase awareness, expand the foundation's reach, ensure sustainability, foster innovation, and strengthen community ties. By leveraging the strengths and resources of community partners, the charity can significantly amplify its impact, providing comprehensive care and support to children with cancer and their families while advancing the fight against paediatric cancer.

The charity held donation drives and collaboration to raise funds in support of the following projects.

## (1) VIVA-NUS Centre for Translational Research in Acute Leukaemia (“CenTRAL”)

The funds (\$8 million expendable for 4 years) were donated by the Charity to the National University of Singapore in 2014 to support the advancement of education and research with the establishment of CenTRAL, a fully-equipped, state-of-the-art leukaemia research and diagnostic facility with the key objective of improving the cure rate and quality of life of patients with leukaemia and haematologic cancer in Singapore and the Asia region, through accurate leukaemia classification, prediction and determination of treatment response.

## (2) VIVA-Mr Goh Hup Jin fund for Translational Research in Acute Leukaemia (“CenTRAL”)

The funds (\$1.3 million expendable received in December 2020) were donated by Mr Goh Hup Jin to support the advancement of education and research at CenTRAL. As of 31 December 2020, these amounts have been subsequently donated by the Charity to CenTRAL. It is used to provide support of 10 CAR-T cell products for children and young adults and support of costs related to CAR-T therapy for needy families.

## (3) VIVA-NUS Immunotherapy Fund

The funds (\$1,000,000 expendable gift) were donated by the Charity to Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, to fund cancer immunotherapy clinical research, specifically to support clinical trials of novel therapies based on immune cells for children and adults with drug-resistant cancer. In 2014, a S\$1 million donation was made to NUS by the charity.

## (4) VIVA-KKH Paediatric Brain and Solid Tumour (PBST) Programme

The funds (S\$12,950,000) were donated by the Charity to KKH Health Fund (Formerly known as KKH Health Endowment Fund) used for the advancement of the treatment and cure for children with brain and solid tumours in Singapore and the Asia Pacific region under the VIVA-KKH Paediatric Brain and Solid Tumour (PBST) Programme. This programme focuses on four areas of childhood brain and solid cancers in clinical care, translational research, registry-based population science, and collaborative education and training.

# Community Partnership

(Other Charity Funds)

## (5) NUS Children Cancer Centre Fund (“CCCF”)

The funds (S\$4,522,744) were donated to the National University of Singapore – Children Cancer Centre Fund to establish a children’s cancer centre, now known as VIVA-University Children’s Cancer Centre (“VUC3”) at the National University Hospital as a centre of excellence for the treatment and cure of childhood cancer, particularly leukaemia; the training and hiring of doctors, nurses, technical and administrative personnel from Singapore and the region; clinical and translational research; cellular therapy and stem cell transplantation. The funds are also used to improve the cure and treatment of children’s cancer in Singapore and the region through projects under the St Jude-Singapore International Outreach Programme including the St Jude-VIVA Children’s Cancer Programme. They also support the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine as a centre of excellence in academic medicine in the area of paediatric oncology in Singapore and the region. The funding is by VIVA Foundation and by Singapore Totalisator Board.

## (6) NUS Health Research Endowment Fund (“HREF”)

The funds (S\$6 million) were donated to the National University Hospital to establish the Mrs. Lee Kong Chian Memorial chair, for Director of Advanced Clinical and Translational Research for Childhood Leukaemia and Cellular Therapy under the VIVA Children’s Cancer Programme. The fund is used to establish a professorship in paediatric oncology. The Donation of S\$3 million was received from the Lee Foundation, via the VIVA Foundation and was matched by the Ministry of Health with S\$3 million.

## (7) VIVA Paediatric Oncology Fund (“VPOF”)

The VIVA Paediatric Oncology Fund has been established with an expendable gift of S\$12 million dollars from the Goh Foundation with a matching grant (S\$8 million) from the Singapore Government to Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS. The fund is used to achieve excellence in the treatment of childhood cancer through 1) Translational and clinical research; 2) Training and education of doctors and nurses, and to set up a professorship in paediatric oncology.

The VIVA-Goh Professorship (\$4 million from MOE matching funds) has been established to provide academic leadership in teaching and research in pediatric oncology, with a specific focus on cell-based therapy, childhood leukaemia, post-care completion of care cards for cancer survivors, and sarcomas.

## (8) VIVA Education and Research Fund (“VERF”)

The funds (S\$672,374) were donated by the Charity to the National University of Singapore, Department of Paediatrics with a matching grant of the same amount (S\$672,374) in support of education, training and research in paediatric oncology specifically through projects that are part of the VIVA Children’s Cancer Programme that advance the prevention, treatment and cure of children’s cancer.

# CODE OF GOVERNANCE

## COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF GOVERNANCE

VIVA Foundation constantly works towards compliance with the Charities Act, Charities (Institutions of Public Character) Regulations, Charities Accounting Standards, the Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs and the Personal Data Protection Act, and take steps to address and resolve weakness/es where appropriate.

## MANAGING CONFLICT OF INTEREST

VIVA Foundation has in place a policy relating to the management and avoidance of conflict of interest. All Members, Directors and staff are required to sign the prescribed Declaration of Conflict of Interest form when they are appointed and thereafter annually or whenever there is any material change in the information contained in their respective Declarations.

## ONLINE GOVERNANCE EVALUATION CHECKLIST (GEC) via CHARITY PORTAL

VIVA Foundation has been submitting the GEC annually via the Charity Portal. These are also available on VIVA's website at [www.viva.sg](http://www.viva.sg).

## RESERVES POLICY

VIVA Foundation has set aside a reserve of \$1.4 million to provide financial stability and resources for the development of its principal activities. The Board will periodically review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure adequacy in fulfilling the Foundation's obligations.

## SALARIES AND RELATED COSTS

No Directors received any remuneration. During the financial year 2023, no staff personnel received an annual remuneration of \$100,000.00 and above. No staff is involved in setting his/her own remuneration.

VIVA discloses that there is no paid staff, being a close member of the family belonging to the Executive Head or a governing board member of the charity, who has received remuneration exceeding \$50,000 during the financial year.

## INTERNAL CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The Board assumes overall responsibility and is fully committed to maintaining a sound system of internal control and risk management that provide reasonable assurance of effective operations and statutory compliance in accordance with the Code of Governance and Charity Accounting Standards.

The Board ensures that there is a sound internal control policies and procedures in place.

The Board constantly reviews, taking into account changes in the regulatory and statutory, these policies and procedures to ensure adequacy and effectiveness. The Board has also put in place a risk management policy. One of these policies is the implementation of internal controls as part of the day-to-day operations.

## VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

VIVA discloses that there are volunteer management processes in place for volunteers.

## REELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors appointed during the financial year was re-elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting.

VIVA Foundation does not have term limits for Directors/Members as the Board believes that continued contribution by each Director provides benefits to the foundation. Each Director's integrity is not compromised by the long period of service.

The Board decided, with the Members' approval, that Directors who serve on the Board for more than 10 years are retained.

## BOARD MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

During the year, 5 Ordinary Board Meetings were held. A Director who is unable to attend any meeting in person may participate via teleconference.

The attendance of each member of the governance board at meetings is as follows:

S/N	Name	Attendance
1	Mrs Jennifer Yeo	5/5
2	Ms Kay Kuok Oon Kwong	2/2
3	Ms Phua Siok Gek Cynthia	2/2
4	Mr Tan Wei Chong, Martino	2/2
5	Mr Wilson Christopher Geoffrey	2/2
6	Ms Shulamite N K Khoo	1/2
7	Mr Tham Sai Choy	5/5
8	Mr Chua Kheng Kok	5/5
9	Ms Tan Bee Lan	2/5
10	Ms Lin Diaan Yi	3/5
11	Mdm Yeong Yoon Ying	2/2
12	Ms Leung Ka Yan	3/3
13	Mr Chua Yi Xin Joseph	2/3
14	Mr Hong Yanci	3/3
15	Ms Tan Yee Peng	2/3

The Board is satisfied that each Director is committed to fulfilling the mission of VIVA Foundation. This is evidenced by their respective valuable contributions in many ways despite not attending some or all of the meetings during the year due to prior commitments.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In 2023, five (5) Ordinary Board Meetings and one (1) Annual General Meeting were held. The Executive Committee\* actively oversees the business of VIVA. The VIVA Board of Directors, comprising 9 Directors, serves pro-bono and ensures that VIVA's mission and vision are met.



**Mrs Jennifer Yeo (Mdm Leong Lai Peng)**  
**Founder and Chairman**

Senior Consultant, RHTLaw  
 Advocate & Solicitor, Singapore  
 Solicitor, England & Wales

Appointed on 6 Feb 2006



**Mdm Kuok Oon Kwong**  
**Vice-Chair**

Chairman, National Healthcare  
 Group  
 Director, Shangri-La Hotel Ltd  
 Singapore

Appointed on 9 Nov 2007  
 Service ended on 30 June 2023



**Mr Christopher Wilson**

Co-Founder, Water and  
 Healthcare Foundation

Appointed on 15 Jan 2015  
 Service ended on 30 June 2023



**Ms Shulamite N K Khoo**

Independent Director  
 CIMB Group

Appointed on 1 May 2018  
 Service ended on 30 June 2023



**Ms Cynthia Phua**

Management Consultant  
 Former Singapore Member of  
 Parliament (2001-2011)

Appointed on 17 Jun 2020  
 Service ended on 30 June 2023



**Ms Tan Bee Lan**

Chief Executive Officer,  
 Healthcare Perennial Holding

Appointed on 1 Aug 2014



**Ms Diaan-Yi Lin**

Independent Advisor, ex-Senior  
 Partner  
 McKinsey & Company

Appointed on 7 Apr 2020



**Mr Martino Tan**

Managing Editor,  
 Mothership.sg

Appointed on 1 May 2018  
 Service ended on 30 June 2023



**Mdm Yeong Yoon Ying**

Director (Special Duties),  
 Ministry of Communications and  
 Information

Appointed on 18 Jan 2020  
 Service ended on 30 June 2023



**Mr K.K Chua**

Chairman of KDC  
 Director of Hayco

Appointed on 16 July 2021



**Mr Tham Sai Choy**

Chartered Accountant

Appointed on 01 January 2021



**Ms Tan Yee Peng**

Chartered Accountant

Appointed on 13 July 2023



**Mr Chua Yi Xin Joseph**

Global CEO, Aiken Digital

Appointed on 02 July 2023



**Ms Fiona Leung, CFA**

Managing Partner,  
 Olive Vista Capital

Appointed on 02 July 2023



**Mr Hong Yanci**

Regional Legal and  
 Compliance Counsel,  
 Sivantos Pte Ltd

Appointed on 02 July 2023



**Mr Brinden Anandakumar**

Associate Director,  
 Fullerton Law Chambers LLC

Onboarded on 11 January 2024

# EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD

VIVA's External Advisory Board (EAB) is made up of an international panel of renowned doctors from the global field of cancer care and research. The VIVA Board of Directors seeks strategic advice and views from the EAB with regard to programmes and projects.

The EAB meets in Singapore once a year. At other times of the year, the Board would also call on the EAB for their expert views and thoughts when necessary.



**Prof Ching-Hon Pui**  
Chairman

American Cancer Society Professor  
Chair, Department of Oncology  
Co-Leader, Hematological Malignancies  
Program  
Fahad Nassar Al-Rashid Chair of Leukemia  
Research  
Director, China Region,  
St. Jude Global, St. Jude Children's  
Research Hospital  
Memphis, Tennessee, USA

Appointed on 19 Dec 2006



**Prof Rupert Handgretinger**  
Member

Professor and Chairman, Department of  
General Paediatrics and Hematology /  
Oncology  
Children's University Hospital  
Tuebingen, GERMANY

Appointed on 7 Dec 2006



**Prof Anjo Veerman**  
Member

Professor Emeritus, Paediatrics  
Vrije Universiteit University Medical  
Center  
Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS

Appointed on 18 Dec 2006



**Prof Leung Wing Hang**  
Member

Clinical Professor, Department of  
Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine  
LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of  
Hong Kong

Appointed on 25 Feb 2020



**Prof Melissa Hudson**  
Member

Director, Cancer Survivorship Division  
Co-Leader, Cancer Control & Survivorship  
Program  
The Charles E. Williams Endowed Chair of  
Oncology-Cancer Survivorship  
St. Jude's Children Research Hospital  
USA

Appointed on 1 Mar 2022



**Prof Godfrey Chan Chi-Fung**  
Member

Honorary Professor Department of  
Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine  
School of Clinical Medicine, The  
University of Hong Kong Consultant  
Paediatric Haematologist Oncologist  
Hong Kong Sanatorium and Hospital  
Hong Kong SAR

Appointed on 1 Mar 2022

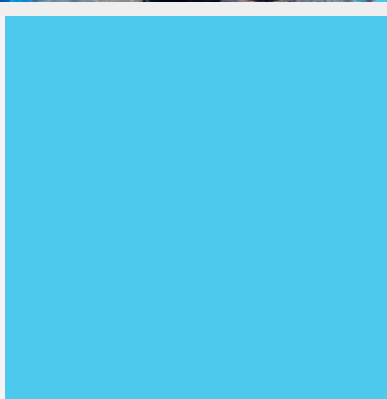


**Prof Edward Holmes**  
Emeritus Member

President and CEO, Sanford Consortium  
for Regenerative Medicine  
Senior Fellow, A\*STAR Advisor  
National Research Foundation  
SINGAPORE

Appointed on 30 Nov 2006

In 2023, VIVA's mission was made possible through the generous contributions from donors, volunteers and supporters. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who made it all happen.



*Help us rewrite the future of kids with cancer.*



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8 Sinaran Drive, #03-01 VIVA Hub,  
Novena Specialist Centre, Singapore 307470



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Children with Cancer



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Children with Cancer