



兒童癌病基金
Children's Cancer Foundation

2021-22 Annual Report

2021

2020
2019
2018

2017

2016

2015



a **Hope** to **Heal**

童抱希望

Content



About Us

Corporate Governance



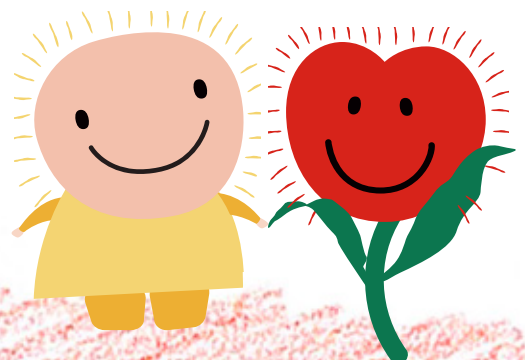
Journeys of Hope

Service Overview



Looking Ahead

Financial Figures



About Us



In Hong Kong, average 180 children are diagnosed with cancer each year – about 1 in every 10,000. Fortunately, today 2 out of 3 go on to outlive their own doctors.

When a child has cancer, it is the whole family who suffers.

For the child who is suffering, can you imagine being so young, innocent and fragile, and having to come to terms with, and understand, what is happening to your body with this terrible, life-threatening illness? Then there are the siblings, who will feel left out and neglected while their brother or sister is getting so much focus and attention. For the parents, it is a traumatic and heartbreaking experience as they are seized with anxiety and fear.

Furthermore, even on the path to recovery, two-thirds of survivors are likely to experience late effects, be they neurocognitive, psychological, cardiopulmonary, endocrine, musculoskeletal or the emergence of a second cancer. These result from adverse outcomes of the disease or treatment complications. They impair the survivors' health and affect their future.

Besides the caring, warmth and support, improving the long-term outlook for survivors and helping them live as normally as possible, and with quality, is important and is a part of our mission.

Mission

- To improve the quality of life for young cancer patients and their families in caring for their physical, psychological and social well-being
- To help doctors improve the survival rate of children with cancer through sponsorship of expensive drugs, childhood cancer research and diagnostic tests

Vision

- To continue provision of the best possible holistic care to young cancer patients and their families
- To extend our current services to families of young patients suffering from other serious illnesses

Value

- ✓ Compassion
- ✓ Professionalism
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Vision
- ✓ Teamwork

Most 3 Common Types of Childhood Cancer



Leukaemia

33.3%



Brain Tumor

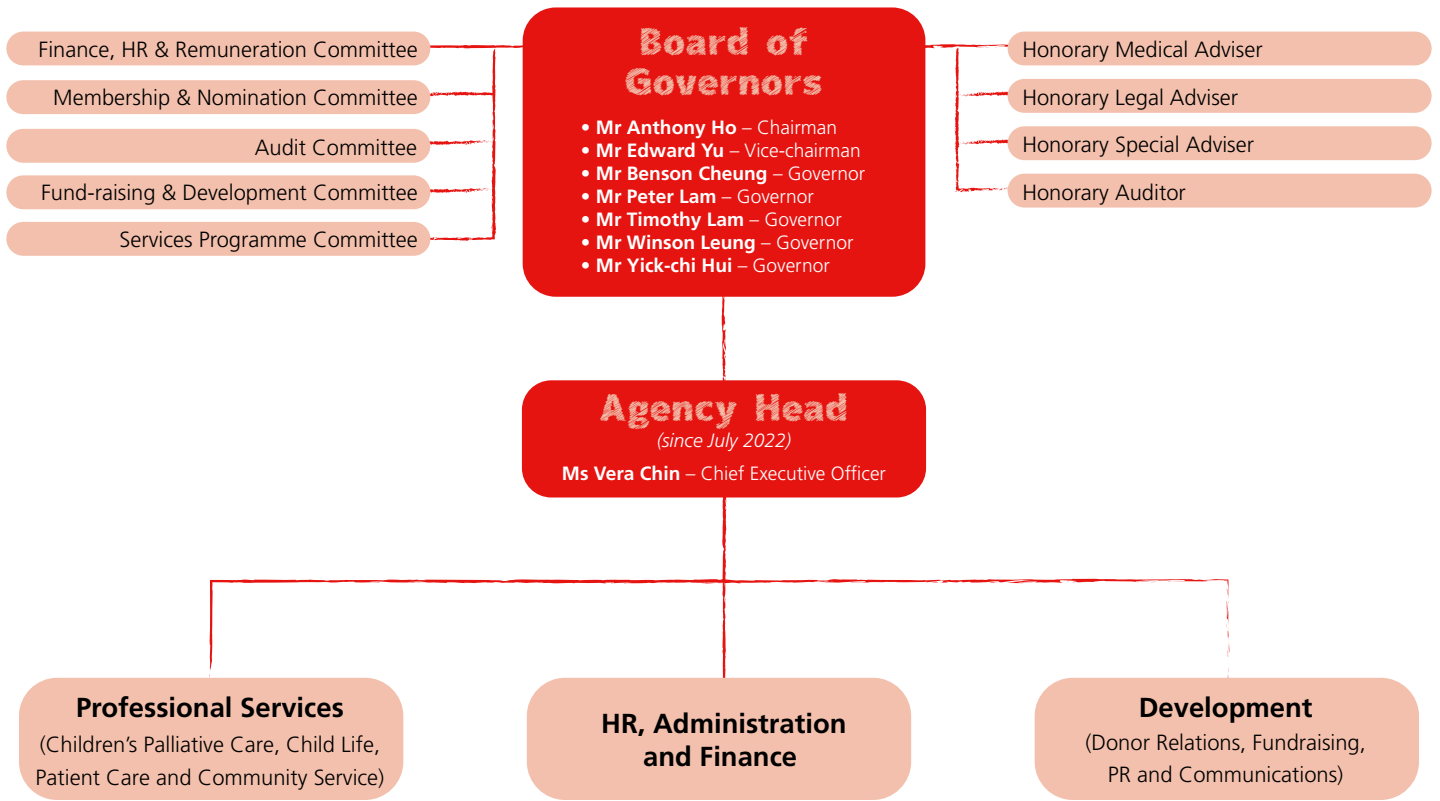
20.6%



Lymphoma

11.1%

Corporate Governance



No. of Service Centers/Units:



No. of Staff:



Journeys of Hope



One night in 2018, two-year-old Oscar lost his appetite after having a fever, his abdomen was hardened and swelled up too. Oscar's mother noticed something was wrong and immediately took him to the emergency. After a few blood tests, his mother was shocked to learn that her little boy had leukaemia. Being a mother of three children, she knew she had to stay calm for her kids.

Oscar's mother takes meticulous care of her children, taking Oscar to the hospital for treatment, bringing her children to school, doing all the chores and cooking, everything! She believes that through hard work and perseverance, nothing is impossible. When feeling frustrated, she would listen to a HK singer, Phil Lam's song Pair of Hands, which the lyrics can always lift her up.

Oscar vomited frequently after the chemotherapy and suffered from all kinds of side effects such as diarrhea, canker sore, fever, rashes and nausea. Oscar's mother recounted that there was one time, Oscar vomited so much that he was throwing up bile and it lasted through the night. "My heart aches watching him suffering like that. But all I could do was to ask the doctor to increase his antiemetic dosage, hoping that the vomit will stop," Oscar's mother said.

In February 2021, after completing over two years of chemotherapy, the family thought that the disease was well under control. Unfortunately, he had a relapse. "I clearly remembered the day Oscar went for his last bone marrow examination and we were going to celebrate, but was thrown into the abyss in an instant hearing the news. "I could not help but kept asking, why Oscar? He worked so hard, why he had to suffer so much pain?" His mother uttered. Fortunately, her optimism and positivity were able to help her continue to fight the battle jointly with Oscar. In July 2021, Oscar's mother successfully donated stem cells to Oscar. After a year of transplantation, his disease was finally stabilised.

One can imagine the hardship Oscar had gone through in those years. Oscar is very mature and thoughtful for

An Unbeatable Kid

Battling with cancer is never easy for a child, the suffering magnifies. Let me share with you a story of an unbeatable kid, Oscar...



his age. What impressed his mother the most was how he coped with his radiotherapy. During the process, Oscar had to stand still for half an hour. Our Child Life specialists prepared and rehearsed with Oscar on the whole process. Oscar was very cooperative and he even went through the treatment without any sedation. The whole procedure was televised and his mother was able to witness the whole process outside the treatment room. As soon as Oscar left the room, he started vomiting again. Oscar's mother knew that he must have endured immense discomfort in the last 30 minutes! He didn't make a word because he didn't want his mother to worry. Once Oscar had to go back to the hospital for a regular check-up, he comforted his mother instead by telling her not to worry and stay home to rest. What an adorable boy! No wonder everyone loves him!

The cancer journey had indeed strengthened the bonding between Oscar and his mother. "Oscar and I are very close. After his relapse, I stayed with him the hospital 24/7 and would not allow him off my sight. The transplantation had further deepened our relationship. All Oscar's mother wish for is that his son can have a peaceful, healthy, and happy childhood. Battling with cancer in the last few years, they have missed a lot of fun in life. We wish that Oscar and his mother could spend some quality time together and Oscar could lead a healthy and joyful life and be a real kid again.

Being deeply touched by Oscar's story, I asked his mother what she sees Oscar in five years' time? She smiled, and started sharing this letter with us ...

Hold On to your Dream...

'Chase your dream!' is easy for one to say. But, for cancer-stricken youngsters, the courage and perseverance required for them to pursue their dreams and achieve their goals are far beyond our imagination.

Forest, a talented young girl, who loves to share her personal life and dance performances on social media was unfortunately diagnosed with leukaemia in September 2020. Forest burst into tears hearing the news, fearing that she would not be seeing her friends and school would be suspended for a long time due to her treatments. Hit by cancer at her age, these worries and fears are genuine. Forest's life is just about to set sail, befallen with such disaster, how would she face it?

Just when everyone was worried about this young girl, Forest showed great strength and bravery in fighting her illness. I still remember shortly after she started receiving treatment, Forest's mother shared her dance video with me. Unlike previous clips, this was filmed in the hospital! As it turned out, Forest having settled with the news, soon found that even she was sick, she could still live the life she wanted and pursue her goals she aspired. Hence, she determined to run her own online YouTube channel. Whenever she felt physically fit, she would dance to the rhythm in the ward. She no longer felt like a patient trapped in the hospital; she was a dancer; she was herself again! During treatments, Forest's schedule was packed with courses from the Red Cross, busy shooting videos on her dancing and drawing, and sharing her journey fighting cancer on her social media. With her sincere and positive attitude, her subscribers were magnified in no time!

While everything seemed going smoothly, another challenge awaited... a few months after the treatment, the doctor told her that she had avascular necrosis from the use of steroid and she could not dance for now. The news was a bolt from the blue for Forest. Yet, when one door closes, a window opens. Arranged by a physical therapist, Forest started her hydrotherapy and instead of dancing, she enjoyed the pool tremendously. Recently, she even started her own online store selling arts and crafts, and with the help of her teachers and classmates, she resumed her school life.



There were many ups and downs throughout Forest's treatment journey and road to recovery, but she has shown us that dream is like a seed weathering through a storm – the storm might destroy everything, but it can also provide nutrients for the dream to thrive.

The journey to recovery for young cancer patients is arduous. CCF strives to support them and their families along the way. Through counselling and organising various arts & crafts workshops, we encourage them to pursue their dreams, helping them explore potentials, cultivating interests and talents beyond their academic horizon.

'Pursue your dream' is easy to say but how can we make it happen? The answer is simple: be yourself, be persistent, live life your own way, even the road ahead is paved with adversity. Like what Forest told us, 'Just do it! Life is full of uncertainties and you never know what will happen next. Grasp every moment and dare to dream. Never let your illness get in the way of being yourself!'





Child Life Superman comes to Rescue

All along, our child life team aims to serve families with children in hospitals. In February, it has come to our awareness that not only children in ward need our support, but also children in the community have been going through difficulties. Those facing unfamiliar medical procedures under the pandemic are even more at a loss.

Therefore, our team has strived to provide different ways to support all children in need! In just six weeks of time, we have produced seven videos. The videos are all for public education purposes, including parenting tips for pre-vaccination preparation and explaining rapid antigen tests (RAT) using age-appropriate language. With the expertise from our child life specialists, we believe these videos can be used as a tool to get children familiarised with the medical challenges ahead. Parents may also get well prepared in advance and find the best cure for their children.



We are delighted to hear that the videos have been helping many families to cope with difficulties under the pandemic! Thanks to the help of Dr Cheung Kam Lau, the Clinical Associate Professor (Honorary), Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, CUHK, these videos are displayed at Children Community Vaccination Centres (CCVC) in Yuen Chau Kok Sports Centre as well as three other CCVCs offering BioNTech since late March*. By displaying in public, we are able to reach out to more children in the community and alleviate their fear before vaccination. It is found that 7,611 children were vaccinated in April at the CCVC in Yuen Chau Kok Sports Centre.



Service Overview

56,290

Interventions



315,658

Beneficiaries



HK\$ 209,891.70

Financial Assistance (including travel, removal, funeral and other emergency support)



HK\$ 2,585,026

Committed Medically-related Sponsorship



200

Days of Occupancy of Half-way Homes



892

Users of Rehab Bus



11

Research Projects on Childhood Cancer under CCF Sponsorship



5,795

Participation of Community Services and Public Education Programme

Looking Ahead



Resuming Face to Face Hospital Support

Child Life Specialists are back in hospitals to provide crucial emotional and developmental support to young cancer patients and their families. We can now directly serve children upon confirmation of their cancer diagnosis through play, preparation, and distraction techniques during difficult medical procedures.

Enhancing Services with Technology

Our programme has embraced a hybrid service delivery model. New technologies allow us to reach more patients and their healthy siblings through online playrooms and play-based learning. We also continue home visits to provide vital support to every family member.



Focusing on Survivor Rehabilitation

Our oncology community nurses actively contact survivors who have completed treatment. We offer occupational therapy and recreational programmes to help overcome challenges. Through Sunshine Market, survivors can freely develop and sell their art and crafts, with all proceeds benefiting their recovery journey.

Resuming Family Activities

Family outings reinforce the important bond between parents and children during difficult times. We aim to provide healing experiences and quality time together through a range of outdoor programmes and activities.



Promoting Children's Palliative Awareness

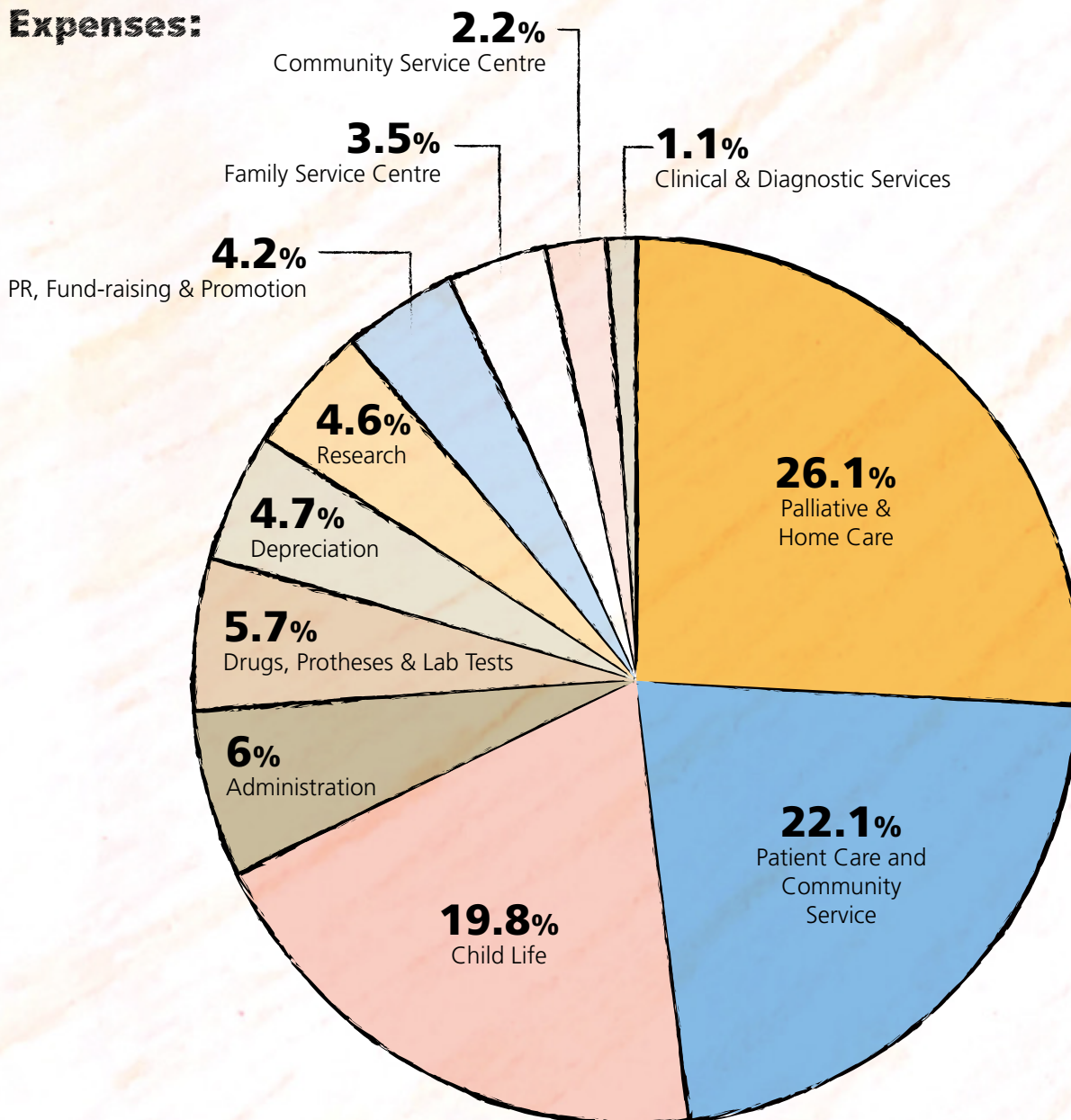
CCF continues advocating for the rights of severely ill children through advertising and media stories. This helps raise understanding of palliative care's role in enhancing the quality of life for young patients and their loved ones.

Financial Figures



Income: HK\$**43,702,969**

Expenses:



Donation Form

I/We wish to make a donation of HK\$_____ to the Children's Cancer Foundation.

Name: _____ (Mr / Ms / Miss) In block letters

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Date: _____

Email: _____

- A crossed cheque made payable to Children's Cancer Foundation
- Direct deposit into the Foundation's HSBC Bank Account (A/C No. 144-276565-001)
- Donation through PPS (the Foundation's merchant code is 9991)
- Through any Circle K store to make a cash donation
*Please forward this form and the donation (crossed cheque, original bank pay-in-slip, PPS or Circle K receipt) to the Children's Cancer Foundation for the issue of official receipt.

I wish to make a single/monthly donation of HK\$_____. Please debit my credit card account.

AMEX MasterCard VISA

Credit Card No.: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

Expiry Date: _____

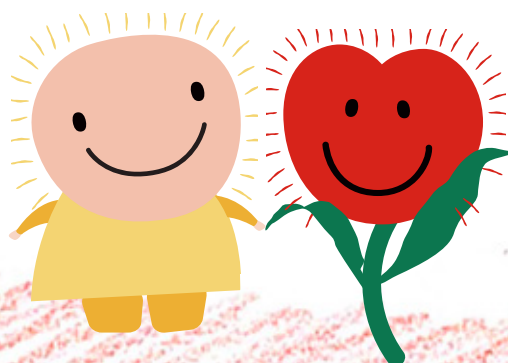
Cardholder's Signature: _____

- Autopay (Autopay Authorization Form will be forwarded to you)
- Please send me a receipt. Donation of HK\$100 or more are tax deductible in Hong Kong.
- Please do not send a receipt.

I / We wish to use the donation for:

- Cancer patients' related services
- Non-cancer patients' related services


Personal data will be held in strictest confidence and used only to send you newsletters and other mailings. Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive future mailings. You may also require us, at any time., to stop using your personal data.






兒童癌病基金
Children's Cancer Foundation

Contact Us

 2815-2525

 2815-5511

 ccf@ccf.org.hk



Head Office

Room 702, Tung Ning Building, 125 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong



Community Service Centre

2/F, Carnation House, So Uk Estate, Kowloon



Family Service Centre

Units 8-13, Ground Floor, Lung Fook House, Lower Wong Tai Sin Estate, Kowloon

Follow Us



www.ccf.org.hk



Children's Cancer Foundation 兒童癌病基金



childrencancerfoundationhk



Children's Cancer Foundation Hong Kong



兒童癌病基金 CCF