



## **Zonta Singapore -Project Pari Fund Annual Report - 1 May 2016 to 30 April 2017**

Zonta Singapore-Project Pari Fund ("the Fund") was set up by the Zonta Club of Singapore in Dec 2009. It is a registered charity since 21 April 2010. It was first granted IPC status for 2 years from 1 May 2010. The IPC status has since been extended on a two-year basis till 30 April 2018.

**UEN** : T10CC0004L  
**Registered Address:** 42 Everton Road #09-04  
 Singapore 089394

### **Management Committee**

The Fund is a service project of the Zonta Club of Singapore (Zonta Singapore). A Management Committee comprising 2 Zonta members and 3 non-Zontians form the trustees of the Fund.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>
Cheong Swee Ying	Chairperson	1 May 2010
Kon Mei Leen	Hon Secretary	1 May 2010
Caroline Loy	Hon Treasurer	1 May 2016
Julie Kwong	Member	1 May 2010
Grace Chiam Chu Teng	Member	1 May 2016

Banker: DBS Bank Ltd

Auditor: Fiducia LLP

### **OBJECTIVE**

The Fund grants awards (Project Pari Award) to female students who are in need of financial assistance. The objects of the Fund are:

- a) To improve the status of women through the field of education, community-involvement, culture and sports;
- b) To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them provided that nothing shall be done for commercial reasons or solely for profit. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Fund may exercise the powers:
  - i) to provide financial assistance to needy female students;

- ii) to conduct life skills programs such as personal hygiene and financial literacy;
- iii) to organise personal enrichment activities such as outings to museums and nature parks;
- iv) to provide mentoring
- v) to actively work with other like-minded organizations which subscribe to similar aims and objects

### **Nature of the Project Pari Award (PP Award)**

Project Pari is open to young girls of all races and religion. Zonta Singapore selects candidates in close collaboration with the school principals based on the students' financial background, positive attitude and willingness to learn.

The Zonta Singapore's Project Pari Committee identified schools to participate in the Award. Participating schools submit a list of deserving needy students from Secondary 1 or 2 for consideration.

Under the Award each student received a monthly pocket allowance of \$50 for each year for the duration of their secondary or post-secondary school education provided they gain a 50% pass in the school's final examinations or promoted to the next higher level each year. Other than financial assistance, enrichment programmes for the girls are also organised. Enrichment programmes are organised by the Zonta Singapore for the beneficiaries. They are –

- i) An annual Life skills workshop to impart skills and to help instil in the teenagers a sense of self-worth
- ii) Annual Year-end social get-together
- iii) Ad Hoc activities such as attending musicals, visits and attending forums.

## **KEY POLICIES**

### **Financial Policy**

The financial policy is to work within our financial capacity. We must ensure that there are enough funds for each of the recipients of the Award for the 4/5 years of her secondary or post-secondary education and sufficient funds to finance the enrichment programmes for the duration of their secondary or post-secondary education where applicable. Projections are done on this basis to enable us to determine if we can enrol more students into the programme.

### **Reserve Policy**

Ensure that there are sufficient funds to support a student for the 5 years of her secondary or post-secondary education before embarking to recruit new applicants.

### **Conflict of Interest Policy**

a) Management Committee members shall declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Management Committee at the earliest opportunity. Whenever a member of the Management Committee is in any way, directly or indirectly, has an interest in a transaction or project or other matters to be discussed at a meeting, the member shall disclose the nature of his interest before the discussion on the matter begins.

b) The member concerned should not participate in the discussion or vote on the matter, and should also offer to withdraw from the meeting and the Management Committee shall decide if this is required. The basis in arriving at the final decision on the transaction or contract shall be documented in the minutes of meeting. The Management Committee's decision on all conflicts of interest situations shall be full and final.

c) During the year under review, there were no matters that involve conflicts of interest.

#### **Financial state of the charity**

During the year under review, the funds from reserves and donations/pledges were sufficient to fund the programme. The donations/pledges received were used to fulfil current obligations, i.e. the monthly allowance of the girls selected for the programme and the 2 yearly enrichment programmes, ad-hoc activities as well as to fund obligations to new students identified during the year. Other than bookkeeping and record keeping/issuance of tax deductible donation receipts, there were no other administrative expenses.

#### **REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1 May 2016 -30 April 2017**

##### **Number of beneficiaries of the Project Pari Award**

During the year under review, a total of 60 girls from 7 schools and 1 from a Polytechnic were granted the Award.

##### **Activities organised**

###### **1) Life skills Workshop – 4 June 2016**

This is an annual workshop organised by the ZC of Singapore. This year, it was a workshop entitled “Level-Up” touching on subjects of personal well-being, social etiquette, personal hygiene, vocal communications, body language. The objective is to build self-esteem and self-confidence for the PP students. It was conducted by Ms Margaret Kwan, a department consultant.

The programme included talks on overall-well-being and on the topics mentioned and practices on body language, communication and table manners during lunch time.

###### **2) Year-end event –**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Zonta Violence Against Women (VAW) Forum on “Mental Wellness and Resilience in our Youths” 19 Nov 2016**

The objective of the Forum was to raise awareness that there is a strong relationship between trauma, violence and mental health. We hope to educate our youths on how to strengthen their mental health and build resilience.

The keynote speaker was Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Health. There was a Panel discussion on topics such as Overcoming life's challenges, Lending a Helping Hand, Springing back into shape, being a Resilient Leader. The Panellists included Delane Lim, CEO of FutuReady Asia who also launched #neveralone at the Forum which is a project to compile into a book inspiring stories and testimonies of youths that have overcome their challenges in life and how they managed to bounce back. Objective is to let youths know that they are never alone. Other speakers who shared the inspiring story of how they bounced back included Chia Xun An, who authored the book "the Black Box and Survivor", Stephanie Loh, a cancer survivor and Elim Chew. There was also a medical doctor on the panel.

There was audience participation in a quiz based on the Panel discussion and on a made-in-Singapore movie, "PSLE-Go".

The programme included a song performance by Stephanie Loh and her musician friends in a band called "Resonance" lead by Karen De Silva (a friend of Zonta) in a number of songs, one of which was composed by Stephanie.

Apart from the PP schools, the audience included other primary, secondary school students and ITE. A total of about 300 attended the Forum of which 71 students, 13 teachers and 1 vice-principal were from the PP schools. The others included 186 students, teachers and vice-principal from non-PP schools, 24 Singapore Zonta Club members/helpers and invited guests.

### **3) Ad Hoc events**

#### **(i) 25 June 2016 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Photography Work-shops at Marina Barrage**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop was conducted by Mr Alan Holik, the brother of one of the Zonta members. After a briefing on adjustment on lighting and shutter speed, how to frame a picture, the Group practised their photo-taking skills around the Barrage area and attended a demonstration on how the Barrage worked.

#### **(ii) Tea sessions with Project Pari recipients**

**22 July 2016**

**23 September 2016**

**17 March 2017-**

Zonta members visited the Project Pari schools as part of its objective to spend more time with the students who are the PP recipients, for them to understand better the objectives of PP and be familiar with members of Zonta who are planning the activities for them.

### **Funding for Project Pari Awards**

The sources of funds were from:

1) Pledges/donations from Zonta Club members, friends, donations on SG Gives portal and donations from other charitable organisations;

## 2) Our Donors & supporters

We are grateful to all our donors and supporters for their generosity and for volunteering their services at the Project Pari events. Our major and regular donors were the Lee Foundation and Mr Li Marco. Donors who organised fund raising events were:

i) Ace Adventures raising funds during their expeditions to Everest Base Camp, Mt Elbrus and Mt Kilimanjaro. Donations were made by the company and participants/supporters of the 3 expeditions. This is the 4th year that Ace Adventures had organised expeditions to raise money for the Project Pari Fund. Donations are received through the GIVING.SG portal.

ii) Fund raising events by the Netherlands Charity Association of Singapore (NCA).

iii) Friends of Zonta who raised funds from CNY Kumquat Jam sales

The amount of donations received from last year's Zonta fund raising event, the musical performance of "Hanuman the Superhero Monkey" held on 9 April 2016 was \$5,515.57.

Total amount of donations received for the year under review

Pledges/donations by Zonta members	\$ 35,069
Donations from Foundations	\$ 10,000
Donations from friends/Corporate	\$ 44,636
Donations from SG Gives	\$ 840
Ace Adventure expeditions	\$ 950
Various fund-raising from last year by Zonta Singapore (Including the "Hanuman" musical)	\$ 5,985.57
<b>Total donations/pledges</b>	<b>\$ 97,480.57</b>

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