

SEND A DONATION!  
See overleaf...

# WANTED

# FOSTER PARENTS

*A safe roof over our heads is something we take for granted but for others, it is an unattainable dream.*



**Meiling\*** is an 11-year-old girl who was neglected at home by her parents. Meiling's persistent crying prompted neighbours to approach the social worker at the nearest Family Services Centre (FSC). After working with the family for a while, the social worker assessed that it might be beneficial for Meiling to stay with a foster family for a period of time while the family sorts out their problems. The social worker contacted Boys' Town to assist in finding Meiling suitable foster parents who can take care of her for a period of 1 month.

**Benny\*** is a 13-year-old boy whose mother is Indonesian and late father was Singaporean. He was abandoned by his family when he was an infant. He was thereafter placed in an orphanage in Indonesia for four years. His father's friend decided to adopt him and brought him to live in Singapore. However, the family friend almost sent Benny back to Indonesia due to financial constraints.



**MSF FA** supports foster children to achieve their potential by providing a stable and safe family environment. These children, from new-borns to 18-year olds are all referred by the MSF Child Protection Services.

**Sanctuary Care** provides foster placements for children from newborns to 7-year olds, whose families are in need of assistance during a crisis such as imprisonment, hospitalization and illness or as a result of a crisis pregnancy. We hope that our assistance with short-term solutions will enable families to stay together in the long-term.

Most times, families benefit from our fostering services so that they can stabilise their housing needs, financial or health matters while knowing that their children are safely cared for.

Our foster families come from all over the world. We have families from all cultures and faiths and this is a crucial element to our success.



Help us bring hope to these vulnerable children who need families to provide them with a loving and stable environment so that they can grow up to be resilient, responsible and loving members of society.

*(To continue on page 2....)*

These are just two of the cases that were referred to Boys' Town for assistance. Boys' Town is a charity started in 1948 by the Brothers of St. Gabriel to help children and youth in need. It provides direct care services such as the residential, street outreach and fostering services.

**There is a surge in the number of fostering cases over the years** and we have expanded our range of services to include fostering such as being an appointed **Ministry of Social and Family Development Fostering Agency (MSF FA)** (since 2015), and **Boys' Town's Sanctuary Care** service which started in 2016.

*\* Names and details are withheld to protect the natural family's identity.*

Continued from page 1.....

In addition to fostering, Boys' Town provides residential care, adventure therapy, street outreach and other community and school-based programmes and services. In a year, we serve over 90 boys at our residential home. Our street outreach centre known as YouthReach reaches out to around 350 youths in a year.

Many of the services in Boys' Town are also dependent on donations. Donors are entitled to 250% tax deduction for qualifying donations. If you have fundraising opportunities for us or would like to pledge donations, we would be delighted to hear from you. **Contact us at 6690 5420 or [info@boystown.org.sg](mailto:info@boystown.org.sg)**

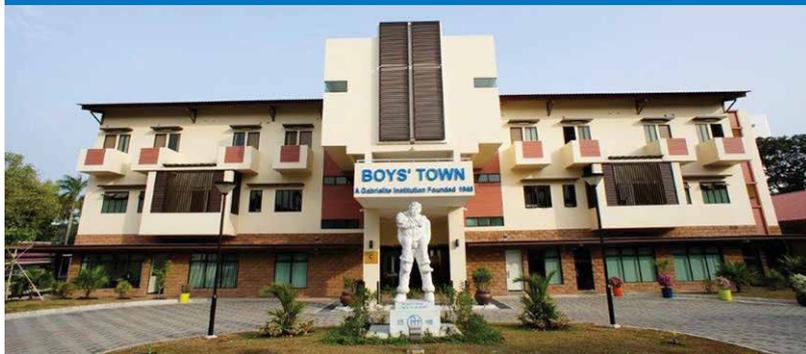
## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### MINI OPEN HOUSE (SITE TOUR)

Would you like to have a site tour of our facilities and understand more about our programmes? Help make a difference in the lives of these children. We will be happy to meet you at our Mini Open House!

Register for the **Mini Open House / Site Tour** by providing your name and mobile number to [info@boystown.org.sg](mailto:info@boystown.org.sg)

Time : 10.30am  
Venue : Boys' Town



**27**  
MAY

SATURDAY

**23**  
JUNE

FRIDAY

**CHARITY  
MOVIE**  
– Transformers  
The Last Knight

8pm @ The Cathay



As a token of appreciation, we will be giving you a movie ticket for every \$50 donation. Contact Lorraine at **6690 5420** ext. 404 or email [lorraine@boystown.org.sg](mailto:lorraine@boystown.org.sg) for more details.

**31**  
MAY

WEDNESDAY

### ANNUAL FLAG DAY

Yes! Our Annual Flag Day is back again! We look forward to your continual support and hope to see you there! To volunteer, please visit our website at [www.boystown.org.sg](http://www.boystown.org.sg) or call us at 6690 5420.

Time : 9am – 5pm  
Volunteer Centres : Jurong East MRT Station  
Tampines MRT Station



BOYS' TOWN ADVENTURE CENTRE

# Life's an *Adventure*

Since 2016, Boys' Town Adventure Centre (BTAC) has been set up to continue the Boys' Town tradition in delivering adventure-based programmes to fuel children and youths' active learning and character development. These programmes are made possible through the unwavering support and sponsorships from donors and benefactors.

The programmes offered by BTAC include challenge courses, mountain expeditions and outdoor sports certification for both beneficiaries and the public.

The centre also has an adventure tower and bouldering room sponsored by a donor. The 15 metre tower offers four levels of engagement, an outdoor abseiling experience and three levels of sports climbing walls (beginner, intermediate and advance), catering to those who are new to the sport as well as for well-seasoned climbers.



The indoor bouldering room accommodates over 20 metres of bouldering surface and commands up to four metres of bouldering height. An inclined wall ensures that die-hard climbers are constantly engaged while the flat wall grants access to casual climbers.

Through these outdoor and adventure programmes we seek to change the lives of children and youth, especially those experiencing unresolved conflict, damaged relationships and post-traumatic stress. The participants come out of their comfort zones, stretch their physical and mental capabilities to discover themselves and uncover their true potential. They learn to reflect, face their inner fears, build confidence and courage as they go through the different challenges in the adventure programme. Developing a positive, resilient mindset will benefit them as they journey through trials and tribulations in life.



TYPE	PROGRAMME
<b>Certification Courses</b>	Sports climbing course level 1 Sports climbing course level 2 Abseiling proficiency level 1 Abseiling proficiency level 2
<b>Developmental</b>	Teambuilding Programmes Leadership Programmes
<b>Therapeutic</b>	6- 8 session customised Adventure Therapy programme
<b>Wilderness</b>	4-5 day Overseas Wilderness programme
<b>Facilities Rental</b>	Climbing wall/Abseil wall/Bouldering Room

We run adventure therapy, leadership and team-building programmes for various organisations, schools and companies. Contact us at [adventurecentre@boystown.org.sg](mailto:adventurecentre@boystown.org.sg) or 6690 5420 to find out more details.

# Who WE ARE...

Boys' Town is a charity started in 1948 by the Brothers of St. Gabriel. We provide residential care, fostering, adventure therapy, youth outreach and other community and school-based programmes and services for over 500 children and youths from disadvantaged and disengaged families. We are an Institution of a Public Character (IPC) and a member of the National Council of Social Service.

YOU CAN  
**EMPOWER &  
CHANGE LIVES**

Donate now at  
[www.boystown.org.sg](http://www.boystown.org.sg)



We accept:  

For enquiries: 6690 5420  
or [info@boystown.org.sg](mailto:info@boystown.org.sg)

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### REPORT SCAMS

Boys' Town is not organising the sale of ice cream and handmade pencils to raise funds.

We have put up a notice on our website to notify the public of possible scams. The authorities would like to advise victims to lodge a police report.

If you encounter these peddlers, please check with us before making any donations. You may reach us at the contact details above during office hours Monday to Friday, 9am-6pm, or call our duty officer at 96234731.

## YOUTHREACH

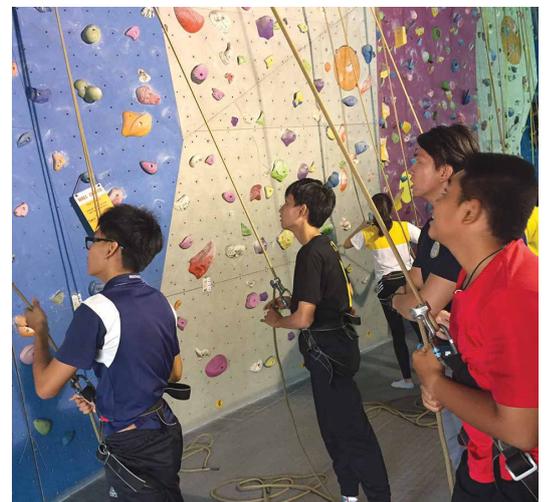
# What's YARE?

Youth-At-Risk Engagement (YARE) programme is an early intervention framework to support youth-at-risk (YAR) using evidence-based or evidence-informed services and/or programmes. YouthReach uses sports and arts programmes to engage youths-at-risk to help in character building while providing a support community.

The 6 month programme will consist of sessions such as training, group work, family bonding, community involvement, vocational exposure and platforms for them to engage in competition or performances that youth can showcase at the end of their programme. The profile of these youth include those with conduct issues, peer or family related problems, social difficulties, anti-social attitudes and behaviour, criminal conduct and/or (those with) incarcerated parents.

YouthReach is currently running three YARE Programmes, namely, Adventure, Culinary and Soccer.

There are a total of 35 participants in the three programmes. The Adventure and Culinary Programmes are conducted within the school-based setting, while the Soccer Programme is conducted within the community setting.



*Youths attending a rock climbing session as part of the Adventure Programme*



*Youths enjoying and participating in a waffle-making competition which promotes creativity and freedom of choice*



*Youths from the community setting engaging in a group-work session during the school holiday period at Home Team NS Chalet*

## Sponsorship of our BT Newsletter

If you like to support our outreach efforts, we welcome your sponsorship and/or contribution to help us defray the costs of producing and the distribution of the newsletters. Drop us a note at [info@boystown.org.sg](mailto:info@boystown.org.sg) or ring us so we can follow up with you.